

THE  
18 Bowyer St. Fleet St.

# Nonconformist.

THE DISSIDENCE OF DISSENT AND THE PROTESTANTISM OF THE PROTESTANT RELIGION.

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## Ecclesiastical Affairs.

### S. OXON ON UNIVERSITY TESTS.

A MEETING was held on Saturday last in the Town-hall, Buckingham, to oppose Mr. Coleridge's Bill for abolishing religious tests at the Universities, at which the Bishop of Oxford took the chair. The right rev. prelate, according to his wont, made a very eloquent speech against the Bill, and, we dare say, deeply impressed his audience by his arguments and appeals. Of course, there was nothing really new to be said on the subject—and, it is not to be objected to, under such a condition, that the Bishop of Oxford merely expanded and decorated the University petition which, although not yet presented, we believe, attracted so much attention, and elicited so much severe criticism a few weeks ago. It seems not at all improbable that the document to which we allude owed its being and form to Dr. Wilberforce's mind quite as much as the speech at Buckingham, and that in the latter the Bishop merely borrowed from himself. We are once more told, for instance, that "the battle now to be fought is not even between sects professing the common Christianity, but belonging to different bodies of those who are gathered in the Christian name; it is not even confined to those who belong to the earlier dispensation, to the Jewish religionists among us, but it extends, also, to those who disbelieve even in the existence of a God, and would allow those who are intellectually qualified to do so, to take an equal part in the government of the University, which has been down to this time Christian; and, further, to admit into colleges founded to maintain and teach, not only Christianity, but Christianity as the Church of England expounds it, even those who make a profession of not believing any revelation at all." In opposition to this proposal, which the Bishop of Oxford assumes would substitute in the Universities infidel teaching for that which is now definitively religious, he suggests many weighty considerations, most of them permeated by what many of us would acknowledge to be the religious spirit, and all of them tending logically to the conclusion that "the question at stake is the true Christianity of this great nation, and with its Christianity its standing in the respect of the world."

We are not about to controvert the Bishop's argument. We shall not call in question his sincerity in urging it—so far at least as sincerity can belong to a professional mode of

thought and habit of feeling and reasoning. The Bishop, we doubt not, retired from the meeting over which he had presided, without any consciousness of dissatisfaction with himself for having thrown away a multitude of sound arguments and pious reasonings upon what, if he gave himself time to reflect, he must have acknowledged to be a false issue. It makes us sad to think how possible it is for men like the Bishop of Oxford to keep alive an outer and professional, and an inner and personal consciousness, at variance with each other—how (no matter to what peculiarity of mental and moral training it be owing) such men may present to the world, and even to themselves, a consistent form of solemn words, instinct with what appears to be deep religious feeling, and yet at the same time know that the purpose they have in view, seen by themselves in the light of naked truth, is utterly and irredeemably worthless. It is very sad. One may read the Bishop of Oxford's speech at Buckingham, and if one is but ignorant of the facts to which it is supposed to apply, and of the purpose it was designed to promote, may read it with a glow of admiration, and even spiritual sympathy—just as one may witness with delighted emotion the natural play of countenance, gesture, tone of voice, and attitudes of body, in a man who represents in a professional way, the character of a hero, a patriot, or a martyr. We do not mean to insinuate that the right rev. prelate ever consciously acts a hypocritical part—but what we do see evidence of, and mourn over, is this, that the beauty, the simplicity, the warmth, the persuasiveness of the professional "man of God," sadly suffer in our estimation when we come to compare them with the qualities, hardly less obvious, of that inner self which has, and which will have, to deal with realities quite irrespectively of their *mise en scene*.

For example, the Bishop says that "the government of the University has been down to this time Christian"; that "the Colleges were founded to maintain and teach not only Christianity, but Christianity as the Church of England expounds it"; and that "the question at stake is the true Christianity of this great nation, and, with its Christianity, its standing in the respect of the world." Now, there is, no doubt, an outer and professional sense in which these allegations are believed by the Bishop to be warranted by facts; but in any other sense, in any sense that will bear the scrutiny of simple reason and of unsophisticated conscience, can even the right rev. prelate believe in them? Has the government of the University been Christian in anything in which it will not, or may not, be equally Christian, after the passing of Mr. Coleridge's Bill, with the single exception that those who take part in it will not be required by law to make a declaration of religious faith in conformity with the Church of England? Is the teaching now maintained in Colleges, in any real and matter-of-fact sense, religious? Are the spiritual results of such teaching and chapel-going such as a devoutly Christian mind can rejoice in as of high value? Is it true that the Colleges were founded to maintain the teaching of Christian doctrine in the Church-of-England interpretation of it? Is it not historically false in fact, even if true in words? Can the Bishop believe in his heart that the imposition of religious tests preserves, if we may so say, the aroma of Christianity in

the teaching of the Universities? If those tests are abolished to-morrow, does he really think that there will thence ensue any decay of living godliness in the nation? Has that happened in Scotland? Is it in the nature of things likely to happen anywhere? And when the Bill has passed (for pass it assuredly will), are we to infer that the Bishop of Oxford will regret it as the overthrow of a monopoly, or that he will bewail it as the wreck of our common Christianity?

The facts of the case as it stands at present are well known—the probabilities of the case as it will be when Mr. Coleridge's Bill becomes law may be fairly estimated? Are our Universities nurseries of religion? Do they even pretend to send out young men fairly instructed in theological truth? Above all, do they commonly quicken and nourish in the minds of young men a reverence for the truths of revelation, a sympathy with the mind of Christ, an assimilation of life to the Christian standard of faith and morals? Why do we ask such questions? Because the Bishop quietly assumes throughout his speech that a state of things such as he must know does not exist, not only is, but is due to the operation of religious tests—and that when a merely nominal and supposititious cause is removed, its nominal and merely imaginary effects will follow it. His speech is a bit of professionalism from beginning to end. Were it really what it purports to be, a sober estimate of the facts as they stand, the Bishop of Oxford ought to be in an agony of apprehension, and show that he is so by some striking self-sacrifice.

Very different, and much nearer to the actual truth of the position, is the letter of the Rev. W. C. Lake, in the last number of the *Guardian*. He says:—"But it is not the admission of Dissenters, especially of religious Dissenters, into colleges, which is most to be dreaded; it is the evil which already exists, increases, and is not likely to be diminished, of an utterly unsettled, not to say anti-Christian, religious teaching. No one who knows anything of Oxford can have much doubt on this point; Mr. Goldwin Smith has referred to the existence of such a spirit in his last pamphlet, as 'a fearful crisis of religious faith'; and, as it has undoubtedly grown up under the present system, it is hard to see how it could be checked by what Mr. Liddon proposes, its perpetuation. Now, without being rash enough to make any prophecy in such a matter, yet having known Oxford for the greater part of my life, I venture to hope and believe that so strong an alternative as Mr. Coleridge's Bill proposes might be its 'restoration of belief'; and, without further entering into the grounds of this opinion, I am glad to find Mr. Goldwin Smith agreeing in it, when he 'suspects that the system of colleges would practically become more religious than it is now when their religious character was no longer formally guaranteed by tests.' I do not doubt, indeed, that it would lead to a great amount of religious controversy throughout the University; but this is nothing new either in Oxford or in England, and though it has its evils, it must be remembered that we owe to it some of our greatest characters both in religious and civil history. There would, perhaps, be in many colleges an active believing party and an active unbelieving one; but though this is not a pleasant state of things to contemplate, I would ask



whether something very like it does not exist already, and whether the best hopes for the party of religion do not lie in an increased zeal and union among themselves, rather than in the attempt to stem an irresistible stream by resisting a just claim." We commend these truthful and wise sentences to the Bishop of Oxford's private meditation—and when he next speaks on the subject, we trust he will speak less like an episcopal Disraeli.

#### ECCLIASTICAL NOTES.

THE so-called "Ritualistic" controversy promises, at last, to become one of serious moment. The Rev. W. J. E. Bennett, rector of Frome, a man, we need scarcely say, of very pronounced opinions, but, at the same time, as we feel bound to state, of the most irreproachable character, has been indicted for holding opinions concerning the Eucharist which are said to be at variance with those which the Established Church of England sanctions. Mr. Bennett apparently maintains the actual presence of Christ in the elements of the Lord's Supper; the plaintiff in this suit accuses him, in consequence, of preaching doctrines that are contrary to the Church of England. We must say that we approve of this kind of test far more than we approve of the test applied at the recent inquiry before the Dean of Arobes. As respects this question, the Evangelicals chose to narrow the controversy to a matter of ceremony only which was illustrated in the indictment concerning the prostration before "the Host." Now, the prostration indicated the belief of a doctrine, but the Evangelicals had not the courage or the confidence to assail what was meant by the ceremony. They choose to assail the ceremony only. In the new trial—if the trial really comes on—we shall have doctrine, and doctrine only, brought under review. This is far better than any shirking of the real question by aiming at rites and ceremonies. And besides. In Mr. Bennett will be found a fair and outspoken man, who will say exactly what he thinks, and who will abide by the issue which the trial involves. In the "Gorham" and the "Essays and Reviews" cases we had many strong and unmistakable indications or promises, that if the trials went against Evangelical theology the Evangelicals would do something very decisive at last. Well, the trials went against them, and the Evangelicals occupy their old and comfortable position. We are inclined to believe that Mr. Bennett is made of sterner stuff, and, however much we may differ from his doctrines, we think that he and his school, at least, will not act the part of the Evangelicals.

The Irish Church question is culminating. Probably no meeting on any ecclesiastical question in England—certainly none in our own remembrance—ever equalled that at St. James's Hall last Thursday. It was the type of a national gathering. To some old men it must have recalled the time when Earl Russell, forty years ago, headed the agitation in favour of the abolition of the Tests and Corporation Acts. Never before, we believe, has any Minister of the Crown, who has so often and so long served the Crown, thought it within the sphere of his public duty to preside at a public meeting connected with such a public agitation as that with which Earl Russell has now identified himself. His presence and his voice have, however, given great and unusual strength to the Irish Church agitation. Protestant Dissenters, above all others in the kingdom, would be glad to see the Bill for the disendowment and disestablishment of the Irish Church carried, as it ought to be carried, by a Ministry of which Earl Russell is a conspicuous member. They owe more to him than they do to any other statesman; and if he has sometimes forgotten what has been his duty to them, he has always awakened, or at any rate been awakened, to its remembrance. We refrain from commenting upon other characteristics of this remarkable meeting, except by expressing our judgment that it has done more than many months of ordinary work could do towards promoting religious equality in the British empire.

There is just now a most unscrupulous series of statements being made public with respect to the connection between the Irish Church disendowment question and the Church of Rome. It has been asserted that Mr. Gladstone belongs to the circle of High Ritualists referred to by Mr. Disraeli; that there is an organised correspondence between the Abolitionists and the Roman Catholics; that the Pope is pursuing a scheme for the endowment of Roman Catholicism after the present State Church is

abolished; and that Cardinal Cullen will not relinquish the Romish proprietary of the present edifices. There is scarcely a day in which the *Herald* and the *Standard* do not contain statements like these. The last two, indeed, are copied from yesterday's papers. The object of the whole of these scandalous statements is, of course, to revive the old "No Popery!" cry. In due time an answer will, we have no doubt, be preferred to all statements of this sort, but it is humiliating to notice the shifts to which the ultra Tory and Evangelical parties have already been compelled to resort in opposing a measure of simple justice. Their advocates throughout the country content themselves, for the most part, with maligning characters and assailing reputations. In London they confine themselves to the invention, day after day, of the most baseless fabrications. So gross are these now becoming that it must soon become almost impossible to avoid actions at law.

It is curious to read, beside these vituperative articles, the language of the organ of the Jesuits of Rome with respect to Mr. Gladstone's resolutions. It is contained in a letter to the *Guardian* of last week, in which several quotations are made. We commend them to the notice of the so-called ultra Protestants, who do not know what Protestantism is, and to the use of our readers. The journal is called the *Osservatore Romano*, and it says, according to the *Guardian* correspondent:—

"After a most violent speech," says the *Osservatore*, "by Mr. Horsman, an Anglican fanatic, Mr. Gladstone, who accepted the theories of the revolutionaries, declared that the English Government ought to retain the goods which were taken away from the Catholic Church in Ireland for the simple reason that it has got hold of them, and therefore ought not to give anything to the Anglicans, who scarcely exist in Ireland, nor yet to the Catholics who have been robbed of their ecclesiastical endowments. But Mr. Gladstone, although a revolutionary and a Protestant, did not dare to say that the State has a right to possess itself of the goods of the Church, but merely that it ought to retain the goods of the Irish clergy, since it has held them for three centuries by the right of usurpation or prescription, in virtue of which some people pretend to justify the possession even of stolen goods."

On the other hand, according to the *Osservatore Romano*, "Mr. Disraeli recognises the necessity of endowing the Catholic Church in Ireland, and since he could not possibly wish to make the Catholic priests stipendiaries, he declared (in the debate on Maguire's motion) that he rejected 'the idea of what is vulgarly called paying the clergy.'"

Now observe. Mr. Gladstone is attacked, not because he declared that the Irish Establishment "must cease to exist," but because he rejected the notion of establishing the Roman Catholic Church on the ruins of the present Establishment; and Mr. Disraeli is praised because he is secretly in favour of overthrowing the Irish Establishment, and is taking effectual measures for the accomplishment of that object while seeming to be doing the very contrary. This will appear more plainly from the second article of the *Osservatore*, which is entitled "Sir (sic) Gladstone and the Italian Revolution."

After a column and a half of argument to prove that Mr. Gladstone is opposed to the Papacy, and Mr. Disraeli in its favour, the *Osservatore* proceeds as follows:—

"The Cabinet of Disraeli, which certainly does not love the revolution in Italy, is against the proposal to abolish the Anglican Church in Ireland, made by Sir Gladstone with the view of overthrowing the Tory Cabinet, and not simply for the benefit of the Irish Catholics. The rejection of Gladstone's proposal, which is believed certain, will serve to render the Cabinet of Disraeli less hesitating in providing for the solution of the Irish question. On the contrary, if Sir Gladstone had not interfered, Mr. Disraeli was prepared to satisfy the just demands of the Catholics, EVEN TO THE ABOLITION BY INDIRECT MEANS OF THE ANGLICAN CHURCH IN IRELAND."

What are the indirect means by which Mr. Disraeli contemplated the abolition of the Irish Establishment? According to the *Osservatore* they are three in number—first, the endowment of a Catholic University in Ireland; secondly, the recognition of the territorial titles of the Irish Roman Catholic Episcopate; thirdly the endowment of the same Episcopate.

We referred, in our last number, to the position of the Unitarians in England with respect to the State Church question, and have received in consequence the following letter:—

Great Yarmouth, April 16, 1868.

Sir,—You will not, I am sure, deem me unreasonable in respectfully asking what you mean by the reference "to what Unitarianism was, and what it is now," with which you introduce an extract from the *Globe* in your Ecclesiastical Notes of yesterday.

I have long been in the habit of reading your paper with appreciation and instruction, and do not like to pass by a remark with respect to my religious principles, which is, to me, unintelligible or unjust. You can scarcely need to be informed that the Church and State question is an open one among Unitarians. For reasons (always appearing to me insufficient) the majority of my fellow-believers hold aloof from the Liberation Society; but I have ground for my statement that Anti-State Church principles prevail extensively in our midst. The *Inquirer* has indeed unwarrantably assumed that its "Church's" notions are those of the denomination; but the *Unitarian Herald*, with a much larger circulation than that of the *Inquirer*, maintains what you and I should call healthy views on this topic, and has replied to the *Inquirer's* sickly sentimentality more than once.

Accustomed as we Unitarians are to the utmost liberty of speech, it does not occur to us to regard the utterances of pulpits, or press as conveying more than individual opinion, otherwise the *Inquirer's* "Eccle-

siastical Polity" would have been more loudly and warmly protested against long ago.

I remain, Sir, yours very truly,

RICHARD SHELLEY, Unitarian Minister.

With due respect to our correspondent, we must say we should have thought that what we meant by referring to Unitarianism in the past and in the present was very plainly indicated. We meant that, in our judgment the Unitarians of the present day do not as a body hold the opinions of those of Priestley's days and of Priestley himself with respect to State Churches. If we have erred, we have erred in very great ignorance, but we think that we have not erred.

#### THE CONFERENCE OF THE LIBERATION SOCIETY.

We remind our readers that next week is the last week for the appointment of delegates to the approaching Conference, and as the arrangements, which have appeared in our advertising columns, may have escaped the notice of some of our readers, we may repeat them here. We understand that notifications of appointments are rapidly coming in, and that a large gathering may be expected.

The usual public *soiree* is to be held on the evening of Wednesday week, the 6th May, and is to take place at the Hanover-square Rooms. Mr. Tillet, of Norwich, is announced as the chairman.

The Conference will be held on Tuesday and Wednesday, the 5th and 6th of May, at the Cannon-street Hotel, London.

It will be composed of delegates appointed by:—

1. Local committees of the Society, or, in the absence of such committees, by the subscribers in any place.

2. Meetings publicly called for the purpose.

3. Public bodies.

4. The signatures of not fewer than twenty-five persons in any place or district.

It is not necessary that either the delegates to the Conference, or the parties appointing them, shall have been previously connected with the Society; the only qualification required being an implied concurrence in the Society's objects, and in the propriety of organised effort to obtain for them legislative sanction.

Notification of the appointment of delegates should be forwarded to Mr. Carvell Williams, 2, Serjeants'-inn, Fleet-street, London, as soon as the appointment has taken place, and the delegates will then receive cards of admission, and full information respecting the arrangements.

When delegates are appointed by local committees such committees must meet for the purpose, and a copy of the resolution making the appointment, signed by the chairman or secretary, must be forwarded. Auxiliaries and branches, together with young men's committees, may appoint under this head.

Subscribers to the Society may appoint delegates either at a meeting, public or private, or by their signatures.

Forms of nomination, for the signatures of either subscribers or non-subscribers, may be had on application.

The number of delegates to be appointed is not limited, except in the case of non-subscribers, who cannot appoint more than one delegate.

Public bodies include denominational unions and associations, and political and ecclesiastical societies which embrace objects cognate to those of the Society.

Public meetings include meetings of congregations held for the purpose, whether in connection with services or otherwise.

Where it is not convenient to send delegates from distant localities, gentlemen resident in the metropolis may be appointed, and the names of those who are willing to undertake the office can be supplied.

#### THE IRISH CHURCH.

GREAT MEETING AT ST. JAMES'S HALL.

On Thursday night, the great meeting convoked by the National Reform Union in support of Mr. Gladstone's resolutions was held at St. James's Hall. The intense interest which this great question is now exciting in the public mind was conclusively evinced by the densely-crowded state of the hall, which was completely filled half-an-hour before the time appointed for the commencement of the proceedings. Both floor and galleries were crammed with an auditory of high respectability: in the latter were a large number of elegantly dressed ladies, amongst whom the Countess Russell and her daughter occupied a conspicuous place. Even standing-room for a single additional spectator was sought in vain, and hundreds were obliged to depart disappointed of admission. At eight o'clock Earl Russell, accompanied by several gentlemen, appeared on the platform, and was enthusiastically cheered.

Earl RUSSELL, who was received with great cordiality, the audience standing and cheering loudly, said: I have pleasure in appearing before you at this great meeting, because this is what appears to me a national crisis of the greatest importance. We hope,



the people of England hope, to put an end to a war, not a thirty years' war, but what I may call a three hundred years' war—(cheers)—which has prevailed on the subject of the Irish Church Establishment. ("Hear, hear," and "Order.") And I trust that we shall all agree that we ought to make a treaty of perpetual peace and friendship with the people of Ireland—(cheers)—and that Mr. Gladstone—(loud cheers)—will be furnished with full powers to sign the treaty of peace. (Interruption and applause.) Gentlemen, in speaking on the subject of the Irish Church there is a great deal of difficulty—and that difficulty is to find any arguments in defence of it—which you have to meet. There are many persons who think that an Established Church supported by or connected with the State does not promote religion and morality. (Cheers.) There are others, among whom I reckon myself, who think that a Church Establishment does promote religion and morality. (Hear, hear.) Of course all those who say that a Church Establishment does nothing to promote religion and morality are quite ready—are forward—to give up one of the worst of Establishments, namely that of the Irish Church. (Hear, hear.) And those who are in favour of Church Establishments find that it is such a burlesque upon all Church Establishments to make a Church Establishment for one-eighth of the people, and against the will of at least six-eighths of the remainder—it is such a burlesque, it is such an injury to the cause, that they are quite ready to surrender it also. (Cheers.) Therefore the difficulty is to find anything like an argument that is used in its defence; but instead of arguments we have frightful prognostics and vaticinations. We have been lately told that if the Irish Church is disestablished, if the connection with the State is put an end to, there will be an end of our civil and religious liberties. (Laughter.) And we have been lately told, not only this, but it has been imparted, as a sort of secret, to a clergyman in Buckinghamshire—(laughter)—that it would be even worse than a foreign conquest of this island. (Laughter.) One is a little puzzled to reconcile that prophecy with the line which was taken by the members of the Government in the late debate in the House of Commons, when Lord Stanley moved a resolution which was in effect that, though some modifications might be made, the question of disestablishment and disendowment ought to be reserved for the Parliament that is to meet next year. That looked very much as if it was a question to be considered and decided next year, either for or against it—most probably against it. (Hear, hear.) But if any foreign Power—happily there is no such case likely to happen, because we are at peace with all the Powers of the world—but if some great military power were to say to us, "Unless you submit to terms degrading and dishonourable to you, England will be invaded and conquered next year," what a strange answer it would be to such a message to say, "We cannot consider it this year, but if you propose to conquer us, next year we will take it into consideration." (Loud laughter.) So that I really do not see how the two different parts of the Government proposition hang very well together. Having spoken of the first resolution of Mr. Gladstone, which is clearly for disestablishment—and I think we shall all agree that the sooner it takes place the better—"Hear, hear," "No, no," and loud cheers)—I come to the question of disendowment. And here I will say that my object—and I have to speak very frankly to you upon this subject—is equality. I think the people of Ireland are entitled to have all the subjects of her Majesty in Ireland upon a footing of equality—(cheers)—and that it is rather—(interruption)—a secondary question whether that equality shall be obtained by endowment of all the different communion, or by the disendowment of all. (Cheers, and cries of "Disendowment.") I do not disguise my preferences upon that subject; but I say at once that as I perceive that the people in general of England and Scotland—the Protestant people of England and Scotland—do not wish to endow all these communions, and that, on the other hand, the Roman Catholics of Ireland do not wish to accept any such endowment—(cheers)—I at once discard any preference of my own, and seek for the disendowment of all. (Cheers.) That is, in fact, the sense of Mr. Gladstone's second resolution, pointing clearly at disendowment; and of course those who say that no Church Establishments promote religion and morality will have some advantage in argument when they have obtained complete disendowment of the Established Church in Ireland. But I own that I cannot think that the Church of England will be any great loser by this endowment—(Hear, hear)—because it is rather as if you should say to a swimmer—"Now, I think you will swim a great deal the better if you have a large lump of lead tied round your neck." (Laughter.) The Church of Ireland is rather that lump of lead, and does not at all help the Church of England, but rather tends to make it fall to the bottom. I do not wish to detain you longer upon this subject. There is a very important third resolution of Mr. Gladstone's, and that resolution is one asking the Crown to place at the disposal of Parliament her Majesty's interest in the dignities and benefices in Ireland. (Hear, hear.) That is in conformity with advice which, on a former occasion, a great many years ago, I gave to William the Fourth, and which his Majesty King William the Fourth was pleased to accept; though, having to contend with Sir Robert Peel, Lord Derby, and Sir James Graham, I did not succeed, and was beaten in that encounter.

I trust, however, Mr. Gladstone will be more fortunate; and if the advisers of the Crown, as I suppose, will advise her Majesty to do what William the Fourth did, the Parliament will assent to the proposal of Mr. Gladstone, and disestablishment and disendowment will take place. I remember being present at a meeting in another hall in this metropolis, where the late Prince Consort delivered a very eloquent speech, and declared that, in his opinion, King William the Third was the greatest and wisest king that ever reigned in this country. When King William the Third obtained the throne of this country it was a question—(interruption)—whether the people of Scotland should be compelled to maintain the Episcopal Church of England as their establishment. William the Third by his wisdom decided—(A disturbance near the door here interrupted the noble lord for a few minutes. Silence having been restored, he proceeded.) I was observing that King William the Third, by yielding to the wishes of Scotland, was able to establish in Scotland that peace and to open the road to that prosperity which have since prevailed in Scotland. (Hear, hear.) It was beyond his power, having to carry on a civil war in Ireland, to do in Ireland that which he did in Scotland; but I trust her present gracious Majesty will do that which William the Third was unable to accomplish—that she will establish peace in Ireland by yielding upon these questions of disestablishment and disendowment to the settled will of the people of Ireland. (Cheers.) I have only farther to say to you, that there seems to have been started of late a theory which, as I am an old-fashioned man and used to the old ways of the constitution, rather astonishes me—namely, that, instead of having men in whom you can confide to lead you, that you should have men with no settled convictions, with no settled opinions, who are therefore the more likely to follow anything that may be started. (Cheers.) If I admire and wish to support Mr. Gladstone, it is on quite different grounds. (Cheers.) It is because, although I have seen variations of opinion in him—and what statesman is there who must not confess that he has often changed his opinions upon particular points?—Mr. Gladstone has changed his opinion, more especially upon this question of the Church; thinking, first, that the opinion of the State ought to govern the opinion of the Established Church; thinking, secondly, when Sir Robert Peel proposed his grant to Maynooth, Mr. Gladstone, having first resigned his office, and placed himself in a position in which no one could doubt the disinterested nature of his opinion, that, if the Catholics of Ireland desired to be endowed, in his opinion that demand could not be resisted; and then, again, seeing the progress of events, he has now brought forward the reasons which you have all read, and says neither the Protestant nor the Catholic ought to be established and endowed, but that there should be equal disestablishment and disendowment for all. (Cheers.) But this is to be said for Mr. Gladstone, that whatever his opinions were he has taken great care to form them at the time, and that when he has formed them he has openly avowed them, and never made a secret of his opinions. (Cheers.) Well, then, I say I am in favour of that old-fashioned system of choosing men of integrity and men of ability to lead you, and I should be very sorry if ever a time should come when the people of England should say that, on account of a man's integrity, on account of his sincerity, they would not confide in him as a leader. (Cheers.) I believe that that time will not come. I am persuaded that you may confide in Mr. Gladstone as a leader—in his integrity and in his sincerity—and that, supported by the people of England, he will lead you to victory, and make that permanent peace which I have already alluded to between England and Ireland. (Cheers.) When he has done that, we shall be stronger in every respect—stronger in our internal relations, stronger in the means of keeping peace in Ireland and peace everywhere, stronger against any foreign enemy, if any foreign enemy should presume to attack us. Having, therefore, these convictions, I trust you will agree with me, and will allow me to call upon the speakers who will address you, and that you will heartily give your support to Mr. Gladstone in the resolutions which he has proposed. (Great cheering.)

Mr. WEST, Recorder of Manchester, came forward to move the first resolution. He said that as good wine needed no bush he would not trouble the meeting with any lengthened remarks, but would at once move the resolution, which was in the following terms:—

That this meeting cordially approves Mr. Gladstone's resolutions on the Irish Church, and calls upon all reformers to give him their earnest support.

The Hon. AUBERON HERBERT, in seconding the resolution, remarked that the prevalent feeling in all our great towns was in favour of justice being done to Ireland. Many calamities, such as the sword or pestilence, might befall a nation, but he knew of no calamity so great as that which must happen when the moral sense of a nation was so darkened that it could not see nor understand what was the plain duty lying before it. In the present instance, however, the voice of England was speaking very clearly. The country had but one answer to the plain question which had been asked. That question was, "Is it right that the Church of a small minority should continue to be supported by the resources of another country against the wishes of the people of the country to which it belongs?" (Loud cries of "No, no.") The way in which the simple statement of the question had been received was a proof that further argument on the point was unnecessary. He

believed that the manner in which England was acting in this matter of the Irish Church was a proof that we were growing more tolerant, and we were already obtaining our reward, for from across the water there had come a voice which had been long silent, but which now proclaimed that Ireland was prepared to accept what England was doing in her behalf.

The resolution was carried by acclamation.

Mr. MASON JONES said that during the last three months he had been every night addressing thousands of his countrymen on this subject in all the leading cities and towns of England, and everywhere he found that the people were in favour of perfect equality and justice for Ireland. There was in the House of Commons an erratic member, composed of all kinds of angularities, and who believed in nothing whatever except the hon. member for Sheffield. (Cheers and hisses.) Well, he had lately addressed a meeting of that hon. gentleman's constituents, and it was a significant circumstance that, although the hon. gentleman spoke wrongly, he voted right, knowing that if he had gone into the lobby with Lord Stanley, he need never have made his appearance again in the good old town of Sheffield. (Cheers and laughter.) Mr. Disraeli had threatened a dissolution, but he felt confident that if the right hon. gentleman had the temerity to go to the country on the Irish Church question he would be beaten disastrously even with the present constituencies, and would lose at least thirty-five or thirty-six seats which the Tory party at present possessed. The desire of the country was that the Queen should dismiss from office men who had degraded the high art of statesmanship into political jugglery, and who had resorted to trick and expediency in order to maintain their places at the expense of their principles, and that her Majesty should call again to her counsels men who had statesmanlike principles, and who had resigned office rather than break their faith with the people. (Loud applause.) This Church question was no longer one of statistics, but one of high principle, on which an appeal could be made to the moral sense of the nation. After commenting on portions of Mr. Disraeli's speech in the late debate, the speaker proceeded to remark that there were only two theories of government which could be maintained—viz., government by a theocracy or government by police-officers. He differed in one important respect from the noble chairman, holding that the State should have nothing to do with religion at all. (Loud cheers and a cry of "Only the Pope.") Mr. Disraeli had asserted that it was not the Church but the State that was in danger, although the right hon. gentleman must be perfectly acquainted with the fact that a State might exist without connection with religion, as was notably the case in the United States of America. Mr. Jones concluded by moving the second resolution:—

That no settlement of the Irish Church question will be satisfactory to the country which does not result in the impartial disendowment of all religious bodies in Ireland.

Mr. MIALL, who on rising was received with loud cheers, in seconding the resolution said:—My Lord Russell, ladies, and gentlemen, I think the straw begins to move. I can hardly realise my position in regard to this question. Three months ago I was an extreme man. Just now I am in the ranks of the moderate party. There are some who go before me who were behind; and there are many before whom I went who have now come abreast of me. (Cheers.) To us who for many years past intensely watched the progress of this question and earnestly yearned that it might come to such an hour as this—the approaching realisation of our hopes fills us with the deepest sense of responsibility. There was a time when I felt it needful to use whatever stimulus truth could furnish me in order to incite the minds of my countrymen that they should do justice to Ireland in this particular. That time has gone by. (Cheers.) There is no necessity now to argue the question. The Irish Church controversy has been settled in the House of Commons by a majority of sixty, and the public opinion of the country has wonderfully backed the decision of that majority. (Loud cheers.) There is no necessity for further argument. We need not now dwell upon the absurdities of and the injustices perpetrated by the existence of such an institution as the Irish Church. We may consider now that we have not to speak, but to act, and that we have, by our votes at the next general election, to sustain the resolutions which Mr. Gladstone has put before the House of Commons. But there is another thing which fills me with a deeper anxiety than this. I am most anxiously concerned that this battle should be fought—not as a battle of factions, but simply as an attempt to do justice. (Cheers.) I hope we shall not triumph, either in our language or our tones, over our fellow countrymen who are of the Anglican communion in Ireland. (Cheers.) We wish to do them no harm whatever. ("Hear," and a laugh.) We are, perhaps, a little amused at the scare which they have got. We can assure them, when this question comes to a practical settlement, they will find themselves in a far better position, even with regard to their faith, than they are at the present moment. Naturally, they shrink from that to which they have not been accustomed. They have not been accustomed to put their hands in their pockets and support the teaching of their own faith. (Laughter and cheers.) Now, I can assure them from experience, and the experience of a very large number of English people, that so far from that being an act which inflicts injury upon the people who do it, it is one which rather raises their full character and gives them an interest in that about which they were formerly indifferent, and changes a political motive into a high spiritual one. (Loud cheers.) They need not be afraid. We shall take nothing from them at



all by this work—nothing which they need to cherish with great anxiety. We shall leave them their Bible—(cheers)—we shall leave them their Book of Common Prayer—(renewed cheers)—we shall leave them their ecclesiastical organisation—we shall not put forth a hand upon their bishops—(laughter)—and they will have full liberty to do the work which Mr. Hardy claimed for them, namely, the high glory and the privilege of upholding the doctrines of the Protestant Reformation. (Cheers.) Perhaps they will do it better when they do it feelingly—(laughter)—and do it at their own expense. (Renewed laughter.) Perhaps, just in proportion as they identify their personal responsibility with the truths they proclaim, they will proclaim these truths with a little more tenderness towards the feelings of others. (Cheers.) There has been no result in the Irish Church that has been to my mind so melancholy and to be mourned over than this—that it has made the very spirit of religion on both sides in Ireland political rather than religious. (Hear, hear.) There is a bitterness of feeling, which does not arise from the doctrines and precepts of Christianity, and it is simply because one party has been by law placed in a position of ascendancy over the other party, and because the other party is placed in insulting subjection. (Hear, hear.) It is on this account religious controversy has assumed such bitter acerbity in Ireland. I hope we shall put an end to the cause of that. And, let it be remembered, we take from the Anglican communion in Ireland no more than this—we call on them to step down from a political and factitious supremacy in order to put themselves on a level and an equality with their fellow countrymen of other faiths. (Cheers.) No doubt it will be galling to their pride; and let us not at such a moment forget how all of us are subject to the frailty of human nature. Don't irritate further than the absolute process requires. (Loud cheers.) Deal gently with those whom you are displacing from their position. Give them whatever you can consistently with your object—that object being religious equality by means of impartial disendowment. Don't haggle over terms, as though the money question was the important question in this matter. (Hear, hear.) See that you soothe the feelings, not simply of the Roman Catholic but of the Protestant people of Ireland, by the mode in which you deal with the question, and by the spirit which you exhibit. If that is done, I believe a very short time will elapse before the whole country will admire the change which will pass over the temper of the people of Ireland. (Cheers.) Some of us, my lord, have been labouring at this cause for years and years. (Cheers.) We scarcely know what to make of our position now. But if there is one thing that we can do, I think even better than anything that we have yet attempted to do, it is to cast oil upon the troubled waters—(cheers)—to see to it that nothing that we utter shall be a firebrand thrust amongst combustible materials—(Hear, hear)—and having in our hearts and in our will to do this work thoroughly and efficiently, that nothing of it be left to be done hereafter. (Cheers.) We will also try to do it in such a kindly, tender, moderate, careful, considerate spirit as that even those who are affected by our policy as they think injuriously shall hereafter testify that we have acted towards them a truly fraternal part—that we saw them in a false position, and with all brotherly kindness have put them into a truer one. (Loud cheers.)

The resolution was then put from the chair and carried unanimously.

Sir H. HOARE moved the third resolution, viz. :—

That, inasmuch as the present Government does not possess the confidence of either the House of Commons or of the country, their continuance in office is a violation of constitutional usage, and this meeting is of opinion that the task of carrying out the aforesaid resolutions should be confided to Mr. Gladstone and a Liberal Ministry.

That resolution, he said, went to the root of the matter, for it asked them plainly to say whether they would allow any trifling or tinkering with that question. Did the people of England want to be led by a political juggler, who, instead of offering them arguments, appealed to their credulity and to the fears and folly of all; or did they prefer the conscientiousness of a Gladstone (cheers), and the intellect of a Bright? (Loud cheers.) He was sure they desired to have the country governed by men who would not stoop to sharp practices or wilful manoeuvres, who believed in what they advocated, and who did not care—as they had proved—for office and place. (Cheers.) He called on them to let the Liberal leaders know that, carried into power on the flood-tide of a nation's ever-growing regard and confidence, they should bring legislation on that and other questions to such a result as would earn for them the eternal gratitude both of this country and the sister island. (Cheers.)

Mr. O'BRIEN, M.P., seconded the resolution, which was supported by Sir P. O'BRIEN, M.P., who disclaimed on the part of his Roman Catholic co-religionists in Ireland any low feeling of sectarianism, or any desire to enter into a crusade against their Protestant fellow-countrymen. They regarded the question of the Irish Church in its political aspect alone, and, having themselves gone through the fire, as it were, for their own religious faith, they emphatically repudiated all idea of acquiring any such ascendancy over the professors of any other creed as that to which they had themselves been subjected. (Cheers.)

Mr. VERNON HARCOURT, in moving the thanks of the meeting—he might say of the country—to Earl Russell for his presence on that occasion, said that when his lordship had something to say to the people of England, he did not sit down on Maundy Thursday to write a letter—(laughter)—but he spoke out what he had to say on a public platform. (Cheers.) It was for the advantage of that great cause that

it should embrace within its circle the greatest possible diversity of interests and opinions. They had heard from a gentleman who had a better right, perhaps, than anybody to speak on this subject—Mr. Miall—a speech characterised by that remarkable touching moderation which was the attribute and the greatest sign of a man in the hour of victory. (Cheers.) They had the signs which characterised all great men in the hour of victory—which they saw with admiration and delight upon the occasion of the great Reform victory of Mr. Bright—(loud cheers)—and they now saw them in the case of Mr. Miall just when his struggle in the cause of religious liberty and equality was on the point of success. (Cheers.) He was sure the meeting would permit him to say that, because he did not share the opinions, much as he admired the character of Mr. Miall. He was a devoted son of the Church of England, and it was as a member of that Church, and as one loyal to the cause of that Church, he was there that night. (Cheers.) If the Church of England should ever occupy in this country such a position with reference to the people of this country as the Church of Ireland occupied with respect to the people of that country, he should not be in that hall or anywhere else to defend its existence. (Cheers.) That was not a sectarian movement, but one inspired by a sense of justice and based on the fundamental doctrine of Liberalism, that Government was for the behoof of the people and the whole people. It might be said these meetings were of no use because they did not argue the question; but they did not meet to argue: the period for argument was past. They had come there to express the opinion of the people of England. During the late debate in the House of Commons they had been told that the Protestant feelings of the country would be excited, and that the Liberal party would be overwhelmed by a "No Popery" cry, but where had there been any public meetings held in favour of the Government? That hall now contained probably as many persons as were comprised in the aggregate constituency of ten of those small boroughs which still sent members to Parliament. (Cheers and laughter.) A word about the present situation of affairs. They now had that which called itself a Government—a Government which did not govern, which was ready to accept anything that its party would allow it to accept, and that was consistent with its keeping office. They had a Government of a party without a policy and of a leader without a principle—a Government of a party which resembled Samson, not in his strength, but in his blindness. Samson, when he wanted to make a conflagration, did not write a letter, but collected a number of foxes, tied firebrands to their tails, and sent them out among the standing corn. (Laughter and cheers.) Mr. Disraeli had acted somewhat like Samson, only the straw was found a little damp, and the firebrands attached to the foxes' tails did not succeed in setting it in a blaze. (Cheers and laughter.) The failure of that profligate and wicked attempt to rouse the spirit of religious bigotry in this country was one of the most reassuring and satisfactory symptoms of the progress of political education. (Cheers.) They were going to give their thanks to Lord Russell because his name was connected with every measure which had been passed during the last half-century for the good of the people. (Cheers.) Lord Russell had a quality which was rare in those who were possessed of a great estate. He was not jealous of his successors—he meant the statesmen who would succeed him in his great political career. Lord Russell had proved his sincerity by his resignation of office, and it was through his resignation that the Reform Bill of last year was passed. (Cheers.)

The Hon. L. STANLEY seconded the vote of thanks, which was carried by acclamation.

Earl Russell, in acknowledging the compliment, remarked that, conscious as he was of many political errors in his public life, he thought they had perhaps treated him with too much indulgence, as it might perhaps be a reason for others committing similar errors. (A laugh.) He had listened to the discussion and noticed the reception of the various speeches with the greatest pleasure. The tone and temper displayed in two of them in particular gave him peculiar satisfaction. One was the speech of Mr. Edward Miall—(cheers)—who supported the cause when it did not seem to be promising, with courage, boldness, and consistency for many years—(Hear, hear)—and now, in the moment of success and triumph, he showed a moderation which was quite as rare as the boldness and courage which he previously displayed. (Hear, hear.) The speech of Sir P. O'Brien showed that there was no desire on the part of the Irish Catholics to claim anything more than religious equality. (Hear, hear.) He was not sanguine enough to believe that all Irish grievances would be put an end to by the disestablishment of the Church, and he might point out that gross ignorance prevailed respecting Ireland in many parts of this country. The Prince of Wales was on a visit to Ireland, and would, no doubt, everywhere receive a hearty, joyous, and loyal welcome. (Cheers.) He should be glad if the Prince, with his kind and amiable manners, could spend two or three months in Ireland every year, for he felt convinced that his Royal Highness would find plenty of sport and amusing society to occupy and entertain him, while probably many young Englishmen would follow his example. He believed the people of Ireland were ready to be as loyal to the House of Hanover as the inhabitants of the other portions of the realm. Better days for Ireland were, he trusted, now dawning, and the present meeting perhaps might not be the least of the events which would contribute to a happier state of things. Now that the voice of the people of England had been pronounced on the question of the Church Establish-

ment, there would, he hoped and believed, be a closer and more cordial union between the three kingdoms than had hitherto existed. (Cheers.) The proceedings then terminated.

#### COUNTER MEETING AT ST. JAMES'S HALL.

On Friday the defenders of the Irish Church held a meeting at St. James's Hall, admission being by ticket. Copies of addresses, proclamations, and exhortations were liberally circulated in the hall, and in Piccadilly the supporters of Mr. Gladstone's policy had planted men carrying blue placards, on which was printed Archbishop Manning's denial of the statement that the Pope had sent his thanks to Mr. Gladstone. The hall was rather more than half full, and soon after the commencement of the proceedings it was discovered that a considerable number of persons adverse to the purpose of the meeting had contrived to obtain admission. Their demonstrations speedily aroused the spirit of the chairman and the rest of the audience, and the meeting became very lively. The chair was taken by Mr. Campbell Colquhoun, who was supported by several clergymen and other gentlemen, amongst whom were Sir J. Eardley-Wilmot, Bart., Mr. O'Malley, Q.C., the Rev. Eardley-Wilmot, the Rev. Joseph Bardale, Mr. Edward Harper, and Alderman Sir R. W. Carden. The chairman made a strong anti-Romanist speech, which was a good deal interrupted by some malcontents, and he said that the Liberal members of the House of Commons were doing all they could to break up the empire. He concluded by saying :—

Agreeing with Mr. Roebuck, I desire to see the integrity and the greatness of this our empire maintained; and if you are going to have, within six hours of your shores, four and a half millions of men, led by fanatic priests, hating England with undying hatred, and detesting her political principles, and regarding her Crown as odious, in compliance with the madness of party or the baneful passion for power, then, I say, you are committing the most grievous blunder that ever was committed, and I thank God that I am able this evening to appeal through you—and you see how that appeal has touched to the quick, and has gone home to the hearts of traitorous men—(cheers)—to appeal through you for a protest against such madness. If such is to be the course which we are to pursue in our later days, I thank God that at least I can lift up my hands in an earnest protest against the selfish madness of politicians, and the blindness of party. (Loud cheers.)

The first resolution, declaring Mr. Gladstone's resolutions to be a violation of the Treaty of Union, and an attack on the Royal supremacy, was moved by Sir J. E. WILMOT and seconded by Mr. BOYLE, a Roman Catholic, who said that it was not the disestablishment of the Church that the Irish people required, and he had no hesitation in saying that he could get hundreds of the Catholic priests in Ireland to sign petitions against any such proposition. They possessed great power, but he, as a Roman Catholic, would tell them that instead of pronouncing requiems over deceased Fenians, it would be far better for them to preach unanimity to their flocks than to use their endeavours to promote discord. (Cheers.) He respected the Pope and Cardinal Wiseman as spiritual advisers, but would not allow them to interfere with his political or family affairs. (Cheers.) The resolution was carried, only about a dozen hands being held up against it. The Rev. JOSEPH BARDSLEY moved the second resolution, declaring "that the abolition of the Protestant Reformed Church would be an avowal on the part of the nation of its belief that Government can be rightly conducted without the sanction of religion." He said that those who wanted to get rid of the Irish Church regarded it as a first step towards abolishing the whole United Church. Amongst them was Mr. Miall, who had been praised for his moderation on the preceding evening. He entered into a long statistical argument, and quoted the opinion of some Dissenters to prove that the assumption of Irish Church property by the State would be "downright robbery." The resolution was seconded by the Rev. W. BRADON, who, speaking as a representative of the Protestant Defence Association of Ireland, emphatically denied that Mr. Gladstone's proposal was a measure either of peace or of justice to Ireland. The motion was carried. Mr. P. F. O'MALLEY, Q.C., moved the next resolution :—

That, whilst this meeting cannot too strongly condemn the attempt to treat Ireland otherwise than as an integral part of the British empire, they consider that the prevalence in Ireland of a religious system which rejects the right of private judgment and withholds from the people an open Bible, renders it more essential that existing Protestant institutions should be maintained there than in any other portion of her Majesty's dominions.

The speaker in the course of his remarks said that on looking to the efforts made in Ireland for the conversion of the Roman Catholics, the success has been on the side of the Church of England, and no serious Dissenter had the least notion that they as a Protestant body could stand for five years in Ireland after the disendowment of the Protestant Church. (Cheers.) The resolution was seconded by Mr. THOMAS PITMAN, and carried. Mr. E. GILBERT HIGHTON then moved the fourth resolution, suggesting the formation of a Great Protestant League, pledging opposition at the election to candidates who support Mr. Gladstone's scheme, and urging petitions, &c. Mr. J. BINGHAM, in seconding it, further urged the necessity of maintaining the grand national compact between the United Churches of England and Ireland. It would go fully to the country that this meeting had been a glorious—A VOICE: Failure. (Laughter and great uproar.) Mr. BINGHAM, excitedly: No, a glorious success. (Renewed interruption.) A VOICE: Three cheers for Disraeli. (Three cheers were loudly given, there being but a few hisses.) The resolution was then put and carried.



Major-General WALKER, and Colonel Hogg, M.P., addressed some remarks, and the proceedings closed with the singing of the National Anthem.

#### MEETING OF DISSENTING CLERGYMEN IN EDINBURGH.

A meeting of the "ministers of the unendowed Evangelical Churches of Edinburgh" was held in the Religious Institution Rooms, St. Andrew-square, on Tuesday afternoon, "for the purpose of considering the existing crisis in connection with the ecclesiastical state of Ireland, and taking such action on the subject as may be judged desirable. From forty to fifty were present. Principal Candlish, was called to the chair, said in the course of his opening remarks—

I have never, since our Church's separation from the State, taken any step whatever in the way of agitating for the downfall of any Church Establishments in this country. I have never spoken on the subject, and I have never taken any step whatever in that direction, and I should have greatly preferred circumstances continuing to be such as to warrant my pursuing that course of abstaining from all agitation against Establishments to the close of my career. But I may state the sole reason which has moved me so far to change my mind as to bear my testimony along with other brethren, is just the dilemma to which the question is now brought, setting before us only one of two alternatives, either indiscriminate endowments or the disestablishment of the Church in Ireland. I take it for granted that we are limiting our views at present to the Established Church in Ireland, and I of course go merely on the plain matter of fact that we cannot possibly expect statesmen to agree to allow things to continue as they are. The Irish grievance must be met. The anomaly of that Church is so utterly indefensible that all statesmen confess that something must be done. And it is a matter of satisfaction to me that the movement in the direction of disestablishing the Established Church in Ireland is forced upon us by a movement in the direction of establishing and endowing a Popish College in Ireland, which is evidently a step towards the endowment of all denominations indiscriminately in that country. We must bear our emphatic testimony in a practical way against indiscriminate endowments, and the only practical way in which we can do that is to express our conviction that the Irish Church Establishment is altogether indefensible, and is such an anomaly and such a source of discord and heartburning that it ought to be removed out of the way. I take the step under the feeling that there is no choice left to us, and I take it without the very least feeling of hostility to the Episcopal Church in Ireland. I believe that that Church contains within its bosom many most excellent, devoted Christian ministers. (Hear, hear.) I believe that within the borders of that Church will be found some of the very choicest specimens of Christian pastors. (Hear, hear.) My own comfort in taking this step is that I do most strongly and firmly believe that the disestablishment of the Irish Church will increase its usefulness tenfold and a hundredfold. ("Hear, hear," and applause.) The disestablishment of the Church will take out of the way the obstacles which have hindered these men from exercising influence over all classes in Ireland; and my own conviction is that, if the Irish Church were disestablished, there is wealth enough in the country, wealth enough among the Episcopalians, to support adequately all the pastors that can be needed, and to put on foot missions to the Roman Catholic and outcast population which cannot be contemplated at present. My firm belief is that the Irish Church disestablished will hold out few inducements to Ritualists, but will hold out the very strongest inducements to Evangelical and missionary ministers. On these grounds, therefore, not out of hostility to the Church of Ireland, but with an earnest desire to see the efficiency of that Church increased, I have no hesitation in lending my influence, so far as it may go, to this movement. (Applause.)

The Rev. Sir HENRY MONCKEIFF moved the first resolution, as follows:—

That this meeting is deeply impressed with the importance of the crisis which has arisen in connection with the ecclesiastical state of Ireland.

Dr. GEORGE JOHNSTON, in seconding the resolution, said he believed it to be the path of duty in reference to this question that all persons who were deeply interested in the cause of Christ in our own land and in Ireland, instead of standing by and allowing the present Government to endow a Roman Catholic University, whatever might be their private views in regard to Establishments, they ought to be ready to sacrifice all endowments whatsoever in Ireland, and let all denominations be brought to an equality in Ireland by disendowing all.

The resolution was unanimously adopted.

The Rev. Dr. PEDDIE moved:—

That this meeting is strenuously opposed to the endowment of a Roman Catholic University, or the granting of a charter to such a University; and earnestly desires to see the Queen's Colleges maintained in their present position, and Trinity College, Dublin, freed from all denominational restrictions.

He said that the policy for some time past had been to open Universities and education of every kind, and free them from sectarian restrictions, and the proposal of a Roman Catholic University was going directly in the teeth of that policy; and the evident result of such a plan being carried out would be to destroy the whole system of Government education in Ireland. Unquestionably, if the Roman Catholics got a University upon their own principles, the next thing would be that they would claim that the whole schools in the country should also be restricted to themselves. The result of such an institution as that proposed by the Government would be to place almost the whole educable youth of the country into the hands of the Roman Catholic priests, to be educated upon Ultramontane or Jesuit principles. He should like if that meeting were followed up through all the towns in their country by the unendowed Evangelical ministers in Scotland taking up this practical ground upon which they all agreed. (Applause.)

Dr. RAINY, in seconding the resolution, said:—

I think it is quite plain that the proposal on the part of her Majesty's Government to set up a Roman Catholic

University was simply a stepping-stone to the endowment of the Roman Catholic Church. (Hear, hear.) It was one of those dangerous proposals which seem to find a special justification, which special justification enabled you to set up a principle, which, being set up, it was to be the means of taking you further in the same direction. It was not denied that that was the meaning of it. That being the case, it seems to me a very decided duty on the part of all of us, though not disposed to enter into agitation against Established Churches at all, to express our minds and give the weight we possess to the right side of this question. I believe the question is far from being safe. I believe that when the practical difficulties of the case come to be disentangled and worked out in the carrying through of Mr. Gladstone's policy, difficulties will be found that are very considerable, and nothing but a strong manifestation of public opinion will save us from the danger that still threatens us, to which I have alluded. There is no event that has happened in my time that has given me greater satisfaction than these resolutions proposed by Mr. Gladstone, although I cannot sit down without expressing my warm and deep sympathy with many good and useful men in Ireland who are placed in a position of great anxiety by the step he has taken. There must be many of them, conscientious men, who cannot take our view of the question, and to whom the step we are taking may appear an unbrotherly, an inconsiderate, and cruel one. We cannot help that. I feel the deepest sympathy for them, and I am sure the Christian public will express and exhibit that sympathy towards them in any way that it is possible. (Applause.) If Dr. Peddie has no objection, I should like very much that besides declaring that an endowment should not be granted to a Roman Catholic University, a clause should be introduced into his resolution to the effect that a charter should be likewise refused.

Dr. PEDDIE having accepted the suggestion, the resolution was put to the meeting and adopted.

The Rev. G. D. CULLEN (Independent) moved the adoption of the third resolution:—

That, in regard to the alternative between the extension of endowments to all denominations, including the Roman Catholic Church, or general disendowment and disestablishment of the existing Irish Church, this meeting declares that the latter course is the only one that can give general satisfaction throughout the country.

The Rev. R. GEMMELL seconded the motion, which was agreed to.

The Rev. JONATHAN WATSON (Baptist) then moved:—

That no appropriation of the revenues of the Irish Church should be made otherwise than in entire consistency with the principles indicated in the above resolutions.

In the course of his remarks he said he could scarcely sympathise with those present who had spoken so tenderly about the condition of certain excellent ministers in the Church in Ireland, because he was satisfied that in the event of disendowment they had the means of support in themselves on the voluntary principle. They had before them, in the Disruption of the Church of Scotland, evidence of what a people could do when their hearts were set upon this object, and when their minds were influenced by the high and holy considerations which true religion afforded. Those excellent men to whom the chairman had referred in his opening remarks, could not have been labouring in vain. They must surely have led up their people to some just conception of their position. He was perfectly certain that, if they became a Voluntary Church, and took an example by the denominations in Scotland, they would do good service to Christianity, and the Protestant faith in Ireland. (Applause.)

Dr. CHARLES BROWN, in seconding the resolution, said he feared they were shut up to the course they were taking, and he thought it was the Lord's doing. Still he felt a good deal for their many esteemed ministers and brethren in Ireland. In some respects they were less ripe than the Scotch ministers at the great Disruption.

The resolution having been carried, some conversation took place relative to a public meeting, but it was thought such a proceeding might lead to disturbance.

Dr. JOHNSTON thought it was very likely that there would be a meeting of the citizens called by the Liberation Society, and they as ministers ought to keep themselves entirely separate from such a meeting as that; and, secondly, such a meeting being to be held, probably it would be out of the question for them to hold a meeting in the same way. If a committee was to be appointed, it should be instructed to correspond with ministers in other towns in Scotland, urging them to adopt a similar course.

Dr. C. J. BROWN thought it would be better just to appoint a committee to watch over the matter generally, and take such steps as might seem to them to be expedient.

The Rev. WILLIAM ARNOTT asked to be allowed a word in reference to what had been said by Dr. Brown. They all deeply sympathised with the ministers of the Irish Established Church; but in reference to what had been said in comparing their prospective position with that of the Free Church ministers after the Disruption, it seemed to be forgotten that the two classes of men were placed in totally different circumstances. *The ministers of the Irish Church were secured, every man of them, for his whole lifetime, in all the emoluments they enjoyed.* (Hear, hear, laughter and cheers.)

Dr. C. J. BROWN: That takes away the effect of what I said. I did not think of the thing. (Laughter and cheers.)

It was then agreed, after some further consideration, to take no further practical action in the question, but to advertise the resolutions in the newspapers.

There has been a number of other meetings in Scotland. A large gathering was held at Leith on Wednesday, Provost Watt in the chair, which was addressed by the Rev. A. C. Fuller (of the Liberation

Society) and the Rev. John Thomson, M.A. Mr. Lundie, an Episcopalian, said that he was in favour of the meeting. Several other gentlemen spoke, and resolutions in favour of Mr. Gladstone's proposals were adopted. At Hawick the inhabitants have met in the Town Hall, at the summons of the magistrates. Provost Wilson occupied the chair; but in consequence of the absence of Dr. M'Rae, it was decided to adjourn the meeting until the 20th instant. The Established Synod of Aberdeen has debated the question at great length, and ultimately adopted a petition against Mr. Gladstone's resolutions by 24 to 14.—There has been a large public meeting at Perth, where the Lord Provost Bullar presided. It was addressed by the Rev. Dr. Marshall, of Couper, the Rev. Dr. Calderwood, of Glasgow, the Rev. W. Adamson, the Rev. J. M'OWAN, the Rev. Mr. Miller, the Rev. J. C. Brown, and others, and very strongly worded resolutions against the Irish Church were carried. The Free Synod of Glasgow and Ayr has, on the motion of Dr. Buchanan, adopted an overture in favour of the withdrawal of endowments from all sects in Ireland. Resolutions to this effect were carried by 35 to 11. At the meeting of the Free Church Synod of Fife and Kinross, held on Wednesday, it was agreed to petition Parliament in favour of Mr. Gladstone's resolutions, and also against the endowment of a Roman Catholic College in Ireland.

**METROPOLITAN TABERNACLE.**—On Sunday morning, at the Metropolitan Tabernacle, the Rev. C. H. Spurgeon announced that a lecture in support of Mr. Gladstone's resolutions for disestablishing the Irish Church would be delivered in that spacious building on Wednesday (this) evening by Mr. Mason Jones, and that the chairman on the occasion would be Mr. John Bright, M.P. Selecting for his text the words, "He must reign," alluding to the reign of Christ as mentioned in 1 Cor. xv. 25, the rev. gentleman enlarged at great length upon the kingdom of the Redeemer, which would last for ever, referring to the various colossal empires which had melted away, because their systems were not based upon truth. Towards the close of his discourse, Mr. Spurgeon said that some persons were alarmed lest the disestablishment of the Irish Church would be detrimental to Protestantism. But there was likewise no fear on that head; for the Church of Jesus Christ would do well enough in Ireland without the aid of bayonets or policemen. It was not by means of the sword that the Gospel was to be preached, neither was it in any human arm that the Church of Christ was to confide. Changes, instead of preventing, would only be found instrumental in accomplishing the great purposes of the Head of the Church; and, instead of indulging in fears and forebodings relative to Protestantism and the Gospel, if we believed that "Christ must reign" we should rest secure, satisfied that His reign must last until He had put all enemies under His feet.

**BURSLAM.**—A crowded meeting of the inhabitants of this town was held in the Town Hall of that place on Thursday evening, to consider Mr. Gladstone's resolutions. The Chief Bailiff (Mr. A. Shaw), presided. Messrs. Grenfell and Melly, the borough members, were the principal speakers, and supported in able speeches the first resolution, which affirmed that the establishment of the Church of the minority was one of the most active causes of Irish disaffection, and that, in the interests of good government and justice, religious equality should be secured by disendowing the Irish Church, and uniformly discontinuing all public grants for ecclesiastical purposes. Resolutions thanking Mr. Gladstone and in favour of petitioning both Houses of Parliament were also adopted. The resolutions were carried unanimously, and the meeting was very enthusiastic. Some 1,500 persons were present, and hundreds unable to obtain admission.

**LIVERPOOL.**—A conference of the leading Nonconformists of Liverpool was held on Friday at the Common Hall, Hackins Hey, Mr. Richard Johnson in the chair, when the following resolution, moved by the Rev. H. S. Brown, and seconded by Mr. J. J. Stitt, was unanimously adopted:—

That this meeting is of opinion that the resolutions of Mr. Gladstone for the disendowment and disestablishment of the Irish Church are especially entitled to our warmest sympathy and support, and we strongly recommend that congregational petitions be prepared and forwarded by the Nonconformists of Liverpool and the neighbourhood.

A committee was subsequently appointed to draw up forms of petition and to take the necessary steps for their being presented to Parliament.

**BIRMINGHAM.**—A well-attended meeting was held at the Town-hall on Thursday, under the presidency of Mr. Sampson Lloyd. Admission was by ticket. Mr. Newdegate, M.P., and various clergymen, were present. Resolutions were carried opposing the disestablishment of the Irish Church, and also condemning Mr. Disraeli's scheme for endowing a university. The meeting was not altogether undisturbed. The chairman felt it to be his duty to acknowledge that the resolutions were opposed by a minority consisting of at least one-fifth of the whole number of persons attending. An open town's meeting, convened by the Mayor, was to be held last (Tuesday) night.

**PLYMOUTH.**—A large, enthusiastic, and influential meeting of the Plymouth Liberals was held on Thursday evening. It was unanimously resolved that the Irish Church had signally failed in its mission and was a grave injustice, and the meeting rejoiced in the prospect of the disestablishment and removal of one main cause of Irish discontent. Another resolution expressed confidence in Mr. Gladstone. A petition for disestablishment was signed by the chairman, Mr. Brown.

**UPROARIOUS MEETING AT DARWEN.**—A stormy meeting was held on Wednesday evening in the Assembly-room of the Mechanics' Institution, Over



Darwen. It was convened by placard, and was called for the purpose of supporting Mr. Gladstone's resolutions. In a few minutes after the doors were opened the room was crowded in every part, so much so that when Mr. Ralph Shorrocks Ashton (who was announced to preside), and several other gentlemen, arrived, the only way they could get upon the platform was by getting upon the roof of a building adjoining and scrambling through one of the room windows. Although the meeting was got up by the Nonconformists in the town, the Church ministers were the first to take up positions on the platform, which was crowded to excess. When the chairman stepped in front of the platform to commence the proceedings, a number of persons upon the platform rushed against him from behind, and it was with the greatest difficulty that he was enabled to prevent himself from falling head foremost into the body of the meeting. After the chairman had opened the meeting by a few remarks, in the course of which he was frequently interrupted, Mr. H. Green proposed a motion in favour of the disestablishing of the Irish Church. It was seconded by Mr. T. H. Marsden, and supported, in eloquent speeches, by Mr. J. E. Thorold Rogers, the Rev. T. Davies, and others. An amendment was proposed by the Church party to the effect that although it might be desirable and necessary to improve the administration of the Irish Church, its disestablishment and disendowment would be attended with the most serious consequences to the United Kingdom, and would not remove the grievances of Ireland. The motion was, however, carried. It was also resolved that a petition be sent to the House of Commons in favour of Mr. Gladstone's resolutions. The meeting, which was of a very enthusiastic and uproarious character throughout, lasted from half-past seven until twelve o'clock. Several forms and windows were broken during the proceedings, owing to the crowded state of the room.

**NOISY MEETING AT BLACKBURN.**—On Thursday evening a meeting, which had well-nigh resulted in a riot, was held in the Exchange, Blackburn, for the purpose of supporting the Irish Church. Two thousand persons were present. Mr. Edward Harper was announced to open the proceedings with a lecture. As soon as he stepped forward to address the meeting, Mr. Whittaker, a member of the Town Council and a Dissenter, got up in the body of the meeting to ask a question. This was a signal for a regular row. The questioner was seized, knocked down, and carried out of the meeting. The greatest confusion prevailed, and a hand-to-hand fight was indulged in by the respective partisans. In the meeting were Mr. Gregson, a temperance advocate, and Mr. Beads, a prominent Dissenter, and as soon as Mr. Whittaker had been ejected, Gregson was seized by a number of men who sought to force him from the meeting. He resisted them, and another desperate fight ensued. Gregson was kicked and beaten, his watch was taken from him, and he was at length taken out of the meeting and the door closed upon him. This was repeated in the case of Mr. Beads, who had not taken any part in the proceedings, but who is well known in the town as a supporter of Mr. Gladstone's resolutions. Quiet was now restored; but when Mr. Gregson, after a short absence, made his appearance on the platform, another rush was made to force him off. After several skirmishes had been fought out, the police appeared, the disturbance was quelled, and the watch was restored, as were also other articles taken from Mr. Gregson in the fight in which he was engaged. A resolution was passed supporting the Government, and disapproving of Mr. Gladstone's resolutions.

**GODALMING.**—A meeting on the Irish Church question, held at Godalming, was attended by two members of Parliament, Mr. Charles Buxton and Mr. Guildford Onslow. Mr. Buxton gave forcible and emphatic expression to his opinion on the subject. The Irish Church he described as "the fragment of an ancient and atrocious history." Mr. Onslow remarked that as a member of the Church of England he had never given a vote with more satisfaction than the one he recorded in favour of Mr. Gladstone's resolutions.

**CANTERBURY.**—At a largely attended meeting of the Liberals of East Kent, held at Canterbury on Tuesday night, to promote the election of Mr. Henry James Tufton, Sir Edward Dering referred to the question of the Irish Church in the following terms:—  
I do not think that a greater anomaly exists than the Irish Church. There is no other country in the civilised world where the whole of the revenues, the dignities, the powers of the Church are so entirely concentrated upon a small minority of the people. In dealing with our colonies and all our dependencies, we adopt a very different system. They would not stand it for a single day; and what I want to know is, why poor Ireland should be the only spot on the face of God's earth where an institution is maintained which is totally and entirely at variance with the religious feelings of a great majority of the people? Now, that there are difficulties attending the solution of the Irish Church question, no one can deny. But this I firmly believe, that the longer we delay grappling with those difficulties the greater will be the difficulty in coming to a proper solution. I believe that concessions at the present moment would be of far greater value than if they are delayed to a future period. I believe that if measures were at once adopted on the principle of justice to Ireland, they would be far better than if they were deferred to a distant period, and then only adopted in obedience to some necessity or requirement. The great question upon which this contest in East Kent must naturally turn, and upon which you have to decide, is a very simple one. It is just this: Are you in favour of Mr. Disraeli's scheme for raising the Roman Catholic Establishment in Ireland, and perpetuating Maynooth at the expense of the British taxpayer, or do you agree with Mr. Gladstone that in Ireland every creed and every religion should stand or fall by its own merits?

**ENTHUSIASTIC MEETING AT CUPAR.**—A great public meeting was held in the Corn Exchange, Cupar, on Thursday evening last, for the purpose of passing resolutions in favour of the disendowment and disestablishment of the Irish Church. Provost Hood occupied the chair, and most of the municipal authorities were present. The meeting was addressed by the Rev. J. Rankine, who made an exhaustive speech on the question; by Mr. J. M. Douglas, the Rev. Mr. Laird, Councillor Foote, the Rev. Mr. Hay, Bailie Duncan, the Rev. Mr. Barr, Treasurer Duffus, and others. Resolutions in favour of the disendowment of all sects, of a petition to both Houses of the Legislature, of Mr. Gladstone's resolutions, and against the endowment of a Roman Catholic University, were adopted.

**HANLEY.**—A lecture has recently been delivered in this town by Mr. Mason Jones, under the presidency of Mr. Thomas Pidduck. The Mechanics' Hall was densely packed on the occasion. The chairman opened the proceedings in a brief but vigorous speech, after which Mr. Jones spoke at great length. At the conclusion of Mr. Jones's address the Rev. J. N. Worsfield rose and asked Mr. Jones if he would meet a barrister of the name of Charley, whom Mr. Worsfield certified to be "a respectable man," on this question. Mr. Worsfield proceeded to speak amidst great interruption. Mr. Jones then replied that he was about to answer Mr. Charley at Preston, and that the best thing Mr. Charley could do was to answer his (Mr. Jones's) lecture at Hanley. Other questions were also asked, and at the close the Rev. J. Legge exposed some of the gross misstatements of Dr. Massingham at a previous lecture. A petition for the abolition of the Irish Church, and votes of thanks to Mr. Jones and the chairman, were then adopted.

**CARLISLE.**—An enthusiastic and immense meeting was held here on Monday evening in support of Mr. Gladstone's disestablishment resolutions, which were adopted by acclamation. Captain Ferguson presided. Sir Wilfred Lawson was among the speakers. A resolution urging the withdrawal of the Maynooth grant and *Regium Donum* was also carried.

#### OPINIONS ON THE IRISH CHURCH.

The Hon. F. A. Stanley, M.P., brother of Lord Stanley, has written to his constituents in reply to an invitation to attend a meeting in Preston on the subject of the Irish Church. Mr. Stanley admits that the opinions he formerly held on this subject have been modified by his experience in the south of Ireland, and says that something besides rearranging the revenues of the Church within the Church itself will be required. He says, however, that before any legislation is asked for we should wait for the report of Earl Russell's Commission.

Mr. Whalley, M.P., in reply to some strictures by a Belfast newspaper, writes—

The abolition of the Established Church in Ireland was a contingency provided for by myself when I took up, at the request of Mr. Spooner, the question of Maynooth. It appeared to me then, and subsequent experience has fully confirmed the opinion, that the Established Church, both in Ireland and England, had wholly failed to accomplish the main object of such Establishment, namely, to resist and expose the aggressions of the Papacy; and I made it a condition of my taking up the question of Maynooth that I should be free to act upon that opinion, without giving thereby any ground of complaint to those on whose requisition I was called upon. Any doubt that might have remained as to the votes to which you refer was removed by the declaration of Mr. Disraeli that an influential party of the Established Church had long been in secret combination, and are now in open confederacy, with the most extreme section of the Papacy; and in so far as he is prepared to act upon that declaration, and to abolish this treasonable declaration, you will not again have reason to complain of my voting against him.

Another Lancashire clergyman has spoken out strongly and admirably as to the necessity of abolishing the Irish Church. The following is an extract from a letter written by the Rev. A. Starkey, of Oldham, to a provincial contemporary:—

When we are assured that the Established Church in Ireland is a piece of injustice to the Irish people, a source of national disunion and disaffection, it is open for us to deny the fact. But if we admit it, our religion will not suffer us to evade the inferential obligation. The law of Christ, like the instinct of man, says, "Remove me first this wrong, and then I will hear what you have to say with a clear conscience." I wonder the clergy, above all, should not remember the golden rule of their faith. Let them do to the Irish as they would have the Irish do to them. Does any one of them lay the matter impartially before the tribunal of his natural instinctive sense of justice? Surely the verdict would not be doubtful. And what I maintain is, that from this verdict there is no appeal to true Churchmanship, and least of all to true Christianity. If there were, we should run the hideous danger of supposing there were two principles of right and fairness—the one, which is instinctive, being liable to be contradicted and set aside by the other, which has been revealed. But, Sir, never will I believe it. No such discrepancy exists, for none is possible; on the contrary, the appeal made to my instinctive sense of justice is powerfully supported by the voice of Christianity. I feel conscious that it is the inmost spirit of the Gospel which works in and through my natural persuasion of what constitutes the just and the right. What is good at one time and place may at another time and elsewhere be a source of great evil. Nor ought we to forget that established and endowed Churches are not Christianity. They stand on their own merits, and must be judged by the one test—that of their fruits. But where are the results of the Irish Church which justify its establishment? Easily may their absence be accounted for. It is not the Church of the people; it is a fatal barrenness, a necessitated sterility. The workman may be very honest, and have excellent tools; but

he has nothing to use them on. God may create a world out of chaos, but the Irish Church has no such omnipotence. The hearts of the people are averse from it. You cannot force their love. It is in vain that you call your stones bread. It is in vain that you pipe unto them—they will not dance; you may mourn, but they will not weep. They have their Saviour and their Prophet, and can understand their voice. We may grieve that it is through our own fault we have made ourselves strange unto them; but the fact cannot be denied. We must let them work out their own reformation, and Protestantise themselves.

More remarkable still is an article in the *Times* of Monday, which is after all only a specimen of the drift of the arguments periodically urged by the leading journal. The *Times* says that no competent authority is making any bid for the maintenance of the Irish Establishment. Nobody is advancing anything but some old "No Popery" arguments in favour of its existence. Nobody is proposing any plan for prospective distribution or appropriation of its revenues, and the Liberal party is left to write down exactly what it wishes to do with the Irish Establishment. The British public only wishes them to go so far as they please, so that it shall not be said afterwards they wanted countenance and encouragement. This strange silence, which so evidently speaks consent, is thus accounted for by the *Times*.

Of course, people are generally better informed, and wiser, and fairer on political subjects than they used to be, and on the broadest grounds of equity less disposed to make five million Roman Catholics maintain a hostile Establishment than they were two generations ago, or even one generation ago. Home politics have latterly come to be regarded less as a balance of class interests and social forces—more as a consideration of justice, charity, and truth. We have done a good deal of emancipation since the beginning of this century, and the matter in hand is a work of emancipation. But the century has witnessed another very great change, in the immense progress of the voluntary, or self-supporting principle, within the Establishment itself. By far the greater part of this metropolis, and most other large towns, builds and keeps up its churches, pays its ministers, and maintains public worship by voluntary payments. They who have to do this do not find it difficult or feel it hard, even though they see churches and ministers found gratis for other parishes. In fact, the most splendid, most comfortable, or most luxurious religion costs comparatively little to each individual worshipper. But our Church voluntaries, now numbering millions, and hardly caring to know whether they are voluntaries or not, do not think it any portion of their duty to get into an excitement and agitate in order that here and there very scanty congregations of Church people in Ireland shall have everything done and paid for them by their poor Catholic neighbours. Nay, Mr. Miall the other day did some injustice to the Irish Churchmen themselves when he said they would now for the first time learn to put their hands into their own pockets for the maintenance of public worship. Thousands of them, in Dublin and other large towns, do this already, their churches and ministers being paid for on the voluntary principle. Indeed, wherever a population increases this must be the case, and prosperity itself becomes fatal to the progress, not to say the existence, of Establishments. But Irish as well as English and Scotch experience, we sh, too, we ought to add, prove that nothing is easier and no expense more cheerfully incurred than for religion. A Church with intrinsic claims on belief, respect, and affection, is sure to maintain itself and spread. Without those qualities no Establishment will now save it.

#### UNIVERSITY TESTS.

The Bishop of Oxford presided at a meeting held on Saturday in the Town-hall, Buckingham, for the purpose of opposing Mr. Coleridge's bill for abolishing the tests now enforced at the Universities. On the platform were Mr. Hubbard, M.P., General Percy Herbert, M.P., Archdeacon Bickersteth, D.D., Professor Burrows (Oxford), Rev. G. Williams (Cambridge), Hon. Percy Barrington, &c.

The Bishop, after some introductory remarks, said:—

I wish that every one in this room should realise this fact, that the battle now to be fought is not even between sects professing the common Christianity, but belonging to different bodies of those who are gathered in the Christian name; it is not even confined to those who belong to the earlier dispensation, to the Jewish religionists among us, but it extends also to those who disbelieve even the existence of a God, and would allow those who are intellectually qualified to do so to take an equal part in the government of the University, which has been down to this time Christian; and, further, to admit into colleges founded to maintain and teach not only Christianity, but Christianity as the Church of England expounds it, even those who make a profession of not believing in any revelation at all. It is against that claim that we have to make head, and that we ask the people of England to help us. There is no justice whatever in this claim. I say that these colleges were founded in connection with the then national religion, and it is an injustice, therefore, to sever them from that which is still the national religion. It is of immense importance that young men, and especially the class of young men who go to the Universities, should grow up with a sense of a national Church. I believe there is nothing more important for us than thoroughly to weigh what a National Church is, and of what moment it is to this country. The National Church is not a Church with endowments, for it may be national without that, and it may be endowed and not national. I hold it to be of infinite advantage, to the poor especially, that it should be endowed, and well endowed, but that does not constitute the essence of its being national. The essence is this—its being that which the nation, by its rulers, adopts as the religious teaching for the people. And to have a recognised form of Christianity authorised by the nation, to give the first place to that particular line of teaching and that particular form of worship which the nation has adopted, is an advantage which it is impossible to overrate, an advantage which all religious men who belong to sects outside the National Church share with the members of that Church itself. The question



at stake is the true Christianity of this great nation, and with its Christianity its standing in respect of the world. I trust you will listen to what will be said by the movers of the resolutions to which your attention will be asked, and that we shall all with one accord go from this room resolved to do our best to prevent this most mischievous proposal passing into the law within this realm. (Cheers.)

Resolutions were then passed in favour of maintaining the connection between the Church and the Universities, and in condemnation of Mr. Coleridge's bill.

Our columns have lately shown how many distinguished members of both Universities there are who do not share the views of the Bishop of Oxford and the Rev. Mr. Liddon. Among them is the Rev. W. C. Lake, who in the last number of the *Guardian* shows that the most recent school of unbelief is already active at the Universities. Mr. Lake takes the ground that the claims of Dissenters to absolute equality must inevitably be conceded, and that it will conduce to religious teaching being placed on a better footing. To isolate Dissenters in two or three denominational colleges would only intensify sectarian feeling, and would leave the non-religious teaching which Mr. Liddon so much deplores precisely where it was before. Mr. Lake shows with great force that the Universities would gain greatly rather than lose in religious tone and earnestness by the admission of Dissenters.

But it is not the admission of Dissenters, especially of religious Dissenters, into colleges, which is most to be dreaded; it is the evil which already exists, increases, and is not likely to be diminished, of an utterly unsettled, not to say anti-Christian, religious teaching. No one who knows anything of Oxford can have much doubt on this point; Mr. Goldwin Smith has referred to the existence of such a spirit in his last pamphlet, as "a fearful crisis of religious faith"; and as it has undoubtedly grown up under the present system, it is hard to see how it could be checked by what Mr. Liddon proposes, its perpetuation. Now, without being rash enough to make any prophecy in such a matter, yet having known Oxford for the greater part of my life, I venture to hope and believe that so strong an alternative as Mr. Coleridge's bill proposes might be its "restoration of belief"; and, without further entering into the grounds of this opinion, I am glad to find Mr. Goldwin Smith agreeing in it, when he "suspects that the system of colleges would practically become more religious than it is now when their religious character was no longer formally guaranteed by tests." I do not doubt, indeed, that it would lead to a great amount of religious controversy throughout the University; but this is nothing new either in Oxford or in England, and though it has its evils, it must be remembered that we owe to it some of our greatest characters both in religious and civil history. There would, perhaps, be in many colleges an active believing party and an active unbelieving one; but though this is not a pleasant state of things to contemplate, I would ask Mr. Liddon to consider whether something very like it does not exist already, and whether the best hopes for the party of religion do not lie in an increased zeal and union among themselves, rather than in the attempt to stem an irresistible stream by resisting a just claim. Mr. Liddon has indeed himself set an example of the best means to attain this end; and I strongly suspect that, if it is boldly carried out, he and others would find more allies from the Dissenters whom Mr. Coleridge's bill would admit, than from the colleges if they are left in their present shape to themselves.

#### COUNTY ASSOCIATIONS.

##### LANCASHIRE CONGREGATIONAL UNION.

The annual conference of this Union was held on Wednesday and Thursday, at the Roby Schoolroom, Aytoun-street. On the first day of the conference the Rev. Dr. Parker was elected president for the ensuing year, and delivered an address of great length, in which he pointed out with much clearness some of the deficiencies existing in the Congregational churches. Dr. Parker was very highly complimented on the ability of his address, and a very full discussion took place upon the questions raised by him. The subject of the Irish Church was then considered, and a resolution was adopted to petition in favour of Mr. Gladstone's resolutions. The petition was prepared in the room, and received the signatures of the assembled ministers and delegates, between two and three hundred in number. It was further resolved to forward to Mr. Gladstone a vote of thanks from the conference, signed by the chairman, for the course he had taken, and offering him hearty support. In the discussion which took place upon this subject, many gentlemen expressed their intention to promote petitions in support of Mr. Gladstone's policy from the several places they represented. This would lead to a strong and immediate expression of public opinion from all parts of the country. Mr. Miall and the Liberation Society were congratulated upon the fruits of their labours now appearing in very manifest forms; and the courtesy of Dean Stanley and the Dean of Canterbury, in inviting Mr. Miall to meet them for the discussion of the subject, was mentioned with gratification; while a regret was expressed that they did not yet see their way to abandon their claims of superiority and exclusiveness on the part of the Establishment, so as to remove every hindrance to the interchange of good feeling more frequently. The Rev. JAMES BROWN, of Bamford, next read a paper on the practices of the early Congregational churches. The proceedings of the day terminated with a *soirée* at Cavendish-street Schools, which was numerously attended. Mr. Crosfield, of Liverpool, presided. An extremely able paper was read by Mr. C. R. HALL, of Liverpool, on the question of church extension, and how to promote it. A paper was also read by Mr. HENRY LEE, on improved methods of Sunday-school work. On Thursday the conference resumed and concluded, the principal

part of the proceedings being the carrying out of the main object of the Union by the apportionment of grants of money to the smaller stations which require assistance to enable them to support their own ministers or maintain their chapels.—*Manchester Examiner and Times*.

##### CUMBERLAND.

The annual meetings of the Cumberland Congregational Union were held in the Charlotte-street Church the week before last. On Wednesday morning Mr. Joseph Brown, of Cockermouth, was called to the chair. The report of the executive committee, read by the Rev. W. A. WRIGLEY, stated that much anxiety had been felt during the year respecting the financial position of the Union, but the balance-sheet, whilst showing a deficiency of about 30%, was regarded as more favourable than might have been expected. The expenditure of the year had been 561*l*. Five churches had received grants of various amounts, and five lay evangelists were sustained at salaries varying from 60*l*. to 70*l*. a-year. It was shown that several churches were in a revived and more flourishing condition, and that the evangelists were doing a good work in carrying the Gospel to neglected parts of the country. Grants were then made to churches and for the salaries of the evangelists. Votes of thanks were given to the Lancashire Union, Samuel Morley, Esq., and Edward Dawson, Esq., for their generous help. Other matters of importance were discussed. The Congregational churches of the county were well represented. In the evening a meeting was held in the chapel under the presidency of Henry Lee, Esq., of Manchester. The gentlemen on the platform were the Rev. W. A. Wrigley; the Rev. W. Brewis, Penrith; the Rev. Mr. Manning, Park Head; the Rev. R. M. Davies, Oldham; the Rev. A. Galbraith, Whitehaven (secretary of the Union); and Joseph Brown, Esq. The CHAIRMAN, after introductory observations, remarked that they were standing upon the verge of a religious controversy—a controversy which would not be ended the next, or probably the year after that; there were too many causes to prolong it for them to expect that it would rapidly pass away. Need they fear this? No. Although they did not desire to have religious controversy, they were not afraid to meet it with the Bible in their hands, which taught them those glorious truths which they held so dear. He concluded by urging them onward to increased energy in the diffusion of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. The Rev. W. A. WRIGLEY next addressed the meeting upon "How to make the world better." He concluded by earnestly pleading the claims of the Union. The Rev. A. GALBRAITH followed in an address upon the "Reflex influence of missionary efforts." Several other addresses were delivered, and hearty votes of thanks were accorded to the secretary and chairman.

**BERKS, SOUTH OXON, AND SOUTH BUCKS ASSOCIATION.**—The annual meetings of this association were held at Uxbridge on Monday and Tuesday, April 6th and 7th. On Monday evening a sermon was preached by the Rev. E. W. Shalders, B.A., of Newbury. The services of Tuesday were commenced by a public prayer-meeting, presided over by the Rev. E. Jukes. At its close there was a private ministerial conference, at which the condition of our rural churches, and the reasons for the frequent removal of their pastors, were discussed. The business meeting of the ministers and delegates commenced at 11 o'clock, when very gratifying reports were received from the agents of the Association, and grants voted for the ensuing year. Mr. Gladstone's policy in regard to the disestablishment and disendowment of the Irish Church was heartily supported by speeches at the conclusion of the dinner, and a resolution expressive of the feeling of the meeting was voted to him. In the evening a public meeting was held, when a report was read by the secretary, and able addresses delivered by the Rev. J. F. Stevenson, LL.B., of Reading, and J. H. Brown, of High Wycombe, and Mr. Hinson, one of the agents of the association. A very cordial vote of thanks was passed to the pastor and friends at Uxbridge for their generous entertainment of the association.

##### THE EDINBURGH ANNUITY-TAX.

On Wednesday evening a public meeting was held in Queen-street Hall, to consider Mr. M'Laren's Annuity-tax Abolition Bill. There was a good attendance, the hall being well filled; and among the gentlemen on the platform were—Mr. M'Laren, M.P., Rev. Dr. George Johnston, Rev. John Kirk, Bailie Miller, Bailie Fyfe; Councillors Stott, D. Lewis, Crichton Bladworth, Muirhead, and John Wilson, and a member of influential Dissenters. Bailie Miller was called to the chair; and, after a brief speech, Mr. M'Laren, who was very cordially received, entered into a lengthened explanation of the features of the Bill for Abolishing the Annuity-tax, or Ministers' Money, in the parish of Canongate, Edinburgh, and to make provision in regard to the stipend of the ministers in the parish or city. Towards the close of his speech the hon. member referred to the abolition of ministers' money in Ireland, the success of Mr. Gladstone's Bill for the Abolition of compulsory Church-rates, and concluded as follows:—

Whether it may be my lot to succeed in carrying this bill or not, I hope you will never allow the flag to be buried in the dust, but that it will always be borne aloft; and you may depend upon it that some day, and that day perhaps not very far distant, you will either carry this measure, or what is the general result of postponed justice, you will carry a much more extensive

one. (Hear, hear, and loud cheers.) You must remember this most important fact, that when Mr. Disraeli was defending the Irish Church, he said that if the Irish Church was to go by the board, the Church of Scotland would inevitably go along with it—(Hear, hear, and cheers)—because, he said, the principle was identical. He said the Church of Scotland was a minority of the population. (Hear, hear.) I am not quite sure of it; but, whether it is so or not, his opinion was that the cases of the two Churches were clearly identical, and that if he did not succeed in supporting the Irish Church, they had no hope of supporting the Scotch Church. Well, if that be so, and if Mr. Disraeli and his political friends are willing to apostasise the people of Ireland by cutting down their Establishment to any reasonable limit, the Church of Scotland remains in the same position. I cannot see how he can logically refuse to do to the people of Edinburgh the very thing he promised to do to the people of Ireland, because our case is one of as flagrant injustice and waste of as flagrant injustice and waste of the public money, by maintaining useless charges, for which no man can hold up his face and say that they do any good, or are required for your interest or the interests of the community, but merely to provide three stipends for three ministers, whose congregations may as comfortably, or more comfortably, worship in the neighbouring churches in the city. (Hear, hear, and loud and continued cheering.)

The following resolution was subsequently moved, seconded, and cordially adopted, amid expressions of gratitude to Mr. M'Laren for his zeal and perseverance in the matter:—

That this meeting, having heard the explanation from Mr. M'Laren of the bill introduced by him for the abolition of the Annuity-tax in Edinburgh and Canongate, in accordance with the resolution of the Town Council, cordially approve of the bill, and agree to petition Parliament to pass the same into law with all convenient speed.

The second reading of Mr. M'Laren's bill comes on at the afternoon sitting of the House of Commons this day. The following statement will indicate the precise objects of the measure:—

The bill proposes the gradual abolition of the impost as vacancies occur amongst the ministers of the Old Town districts, where there is at present a superabundance of churches and ministers. At present there are eight ministers in these districts, and it is proposed to reduce them to five. On the total abolition of this impost, there will be an available fund of not less than 6,350*l*. a year for payment of the minister's stipends, with the prospect of a considerable increase.

The fund from which these stipends will be payable will be payable will be derivable from the following sources:—(1.) The sum of 2,000*l*., now received through the Exchequer by the Edinburgh clergy, from the annuity payable to the corporation in lieu of its property in Leith Harbour, docks, warehouses, feu-duties, &c., surrendered in 1838, at the desire of her Majesty's Government. (2.) The pew-rents, which are now received by the Ecclesiastical Commissioners for the benefit of the clergy, under the provisions of the Act of 1860. These pew-rents last year yielded 4,013*l*., and are yearly increasing in amount. By the bill they must not be under 4,260*l*. Before the disruption of the Church of Scotland these pew-rents exceeded 7,500*l*., and there is good reason for believing that a large increase on the present amount might easily be realised, under proper management. (3.) Certain small rents and endowments specified in the bill, amounting to upwards of 100*l*. yearly.

By the bill the patronage of the city churches, at present vested in the Corporation, is to be vested in the respective kirk sessions, to be exercised by the elders and male communicants of each church. By the Act of 1860 provision was made for the purchase from the Town Council of the patronage of the churches, on payment of 600*l*. for each; a sum equal to only one year's purchase of the living. By the present bill the patronage is proposed to be given up without any compensation.

By handing over the patronage to the congregations, each church will in future appoint its own minister, and thereby secure a larger attendance, and it may be presumed, an increased revenue from pew-rents for the benefit of the ministers.

Prior to the passing of the Act of 1860 the pew-rents of the City churches were legally the property of the Corporation, forming part of the fund secured to the City creditors by the City Agreement Act of 1838, for payment of the interest on the city debt. The Act of 1860 gave up the pew-rents to the city ministers; and to make up the deficiency thus caused in the municipal funds, an additional rate of one penny on the pound of rental was imposed, not only in the city parish, but also in St. Cuthbert's and Canongate, which parishes were not chargeable with the original Annuity-tax commuted into a police rate by the Act of 1860. The population of these two parishes (about 100,000) was thus assessed indirectly for the support of the City ministers, in contravention of the Municipality Extension Act of 1856, which contained a clause prohibiting the extension of the Annuity-tax to these districts of the city.

The bill (clauses 10, 11) provides for the immediate abolition of this penny rate in the parishes of St. Cuthbert's and Canongate, and for the abolition, in four years, of that portion levied in the city parish, by which time new sources of income will enable the corporation to dispense with the whole amount.

By the Poor Law of Scotland the ordinary church-door collections are made applicable to the relief of the poor. Under this bill they will be appropriated to the payment of the miscellaneous expenses connected with the maintenance of the churches and other charges, which are now defrayed by the Ecclesiastical Commissioners out of their general funds. To this extent, therefore, the fund for payment of the ministers' stipends will be increased, while all the poor legally entitled to aid from the church-door collections, will still be entitled to relief from the Poor-law funds of the parish. The amount of those collections for the last year was 1,600*l*., and the church expenses during the last five years, in which the property was under the management of the Corporation, was not more than 1,700*l*. a year; so that there can be no great difficulty in making the income equal to the expenditure.

##### MR. DISRAELI AND HIS POPISH PLOT.

(From the *Saturday Review*.)

It turns out that it is Mr. Mackenzie and his curates who are trying to dethrone the Queen. They



are by no means the simple, enthusiastic people they were supposed to be, but the heads of a gigantic, dangerous, and most artful plot. They have formed the design of inflicting an evil on England worse than that of foreign conquest, and the mere design, apart from the steps taken to carry it out, has something grand, wild, and imposing in it. But the machinery they have set on foot in pursuance of their great aim is so varied, so subtle, and so mysterious that the means fill us with quite as much surprise, awe, and indignation as the end. Their first step, it appears, was to enter into a solemn league and covenant with Cardinal Oullen and some of his friends, and the combined forces then set about executing the wicked and detestable purpose they had in common. They got hold of the unfortunate Liberation Society, and made it work for them. Little knowing that he and his colleagues were really going to be the first victims of the arch-plotters, Mr. Miall fell into the snare, and did exactly what the conspirators bade him to do. In time they intend to persecute him and probably burn him, but at present he likes them very much, and works like a nigger for them. Flushed with such a conquest, they tried to victimise and enslave a nobler and larger set of foolish passive instruments, and were successful. They made the whole Liberal party of England work for them. They had easy work with Mr. Gladstone, who is hotheaded and earnest, and fitted from his birth to do whatever priests tell him to do; but they made much more notable conquests. They impressed Mr. Bright, Mr. Forster, and Mr. Mill into their service. They managed to make Mr. Lowe, who certainly is not much in the ecclesiastical way, think and speak as they wished; and lastly, they got 330 members of the House of Commons to record, in an ignominious vote, the avowal of their shameful slavery. So far these fiends in green and red and flowery dresses have triumphed. But there has been an eye upon them. Mr. Disraeli has watched them, as indeed it was his duty as First Minister of the Crown to watch them; and he now exposes, in a letter to the Rev. Mr. Baker, the whole of their nefarious practices. Not but what he is just enough and careful enough not to confound the innocent with the guilty. He does not mean to say that all, or even most, English clergymen are in the plot. He knows and loves too well the High-Church party to think evil of them. Is it not to them that he owes the orthodoxy of religious faith which constitutes so marked an element of his being? And he loves the Low-Church party too, and honours and prizes them, for they are a "beneficent necessity." It is the Ritualists, and they only, who are his enemies, and it is the Ritualists only who have triumphed over him. But he does not despair; he will use his utmost energies to "defeat" their fatal "machinations." Now that they know the plot against the throne and against English liberty, all loyal subjects and all freehearted Britons may be expected to rally round the Minister who alone of Englishmen has detected, has denounced, and is trying to baffle, this vast conspiracy. Even now he cannot disclose everything. A Minister must keep some secrets of State to himself. How he came to a knowledge of the plot, and what evidence satisfied him, he must for obvious reasons conceal. If they once knew how he found them out, persons so artful, so ingenious, and so reckless as Mr. Macdonochie might find means of eluding even his superhuman vigilance. It is enough for the country to know that the plot exists, and that it must lend its utmost assistance to the noble-minded Protestant orthodox Minister who is trying against such fearful odds to save his Sovereign and defend his fellow-subjects.

In a political novel it would have been an amusing incident to describe a falling Minister hitting on such a desperate expedient to sustain his popularity. But in real life a letter like that which Mr. Disraeli has written to Mr. Baker is only amusing in a very slight degree. It is amusing, for it seems to harmonise with, while it exaggerates, the general comedy of his Premiership. But, while we laugh, we cannot help feeling ashamed of being under a Government the head of which tries to palm off such glaring absurdities on the country. Mr. Disraeli has an enemy to contend with much more fatal than Ritualists or Cardinals, and that enemy is himself. His Premiership has been one continuous series of blunders.

Mr. Hadfield intends on Civil Service Estimates to move that the sum of 10,000*l.* for Nonconforming clergy be omitted.

SCRIPTURAL ABUSE.—A familiarity with Scripture is unquestionably a great advantage in controversy. It opens a wide and fruitful field to invective. A clergyman in North Shropshire told his congregation on Good Friday that those who voted with Mr. Gladstone in the division on the Irish Church, instead of voting with Mr. Disraeli, virtually said, "Not this man, but Barabbas."

MR. DISRAELI'S CHURCHMANSHIP.—At a meeting held at Aylesbury on Monday, to oppose Mr. Gladstone's Irish Church resolutions, the Rev. G. W. Chubbe, vicar of Hughendon, in the course of his remarks, said that among the many calumnious attacks which were made on the Prime Minister, it was often said, "He may go to church, but is he a communicant?" To that he could reply that for the last seventeen years Mr. Disraeli had been a constant communicant, and he wished that his calumniators could have been present on Easter-day and seen him kneeling side by side with the humblest man in the parish.

MR. DISRAELI'S RED-HERRING TRAIL.—Letters have appeared in the *Times* and other papers setting

forth the wrongs to which Wales has been subjected. Now, whatever justice or injustice underlies the Welsh question matters not at the present time. When it comes on for discussion we shall be prepared to go for justice to Wales in Church and Land; but at present it is not before the House of Commons. It is plainly and palpably a red herring. The question before the country is the successful Government of Ireland and how to attain it—and a revision of its ecclesiastical arrangements so far as they are subordinate to political domination as a means to that end. With that view Mr. Gladstone's resolutions are before the present Parliament, and it is our manifest duty to bring all the public opinion we can to bear upon our representatives in support of all those resolutions. Let us keep the issue fully and fairly before our representatives and the country and not spoil the scent by following Mr. Disraeli's red herring. If this be done, the battle will be fought on its merits, and no one doubts the result.—*Wrexham Advertiser.*

THE RITUALISTS.—The *South London Press* says that, in consequence of the promoter's appeal from the recent judgment in the Macdonochie case, the use of incense during the celebration of the Communion was reintroduced at two South London churches—St. Paul's, Walworth, and Christ Church, Clapham—on Sunday last. At the latter church "persons and things" were censured.—Dissatisfaction has been produced in York by the Ritualistic practices at the church of All Saints', North-street, and especially at what happened on Sunday week. In the morning of that day Mr. Bibby, a member of the choir, proceeded to the church before the congregation had assembled, and with a thurible, or censer, he incensed the chancel. Mr. Garlick, a churchwarden, hearing what was going forward, proceeded thither, and found Mr. Bibby in the act. He ordered him to desist, but Bibby refusing to obey, Mr. Garlick took him by the shoulders and walked him to the door, besides taking the thurible from him and throwing it into the coal-pan in the vestry. Mr. Bibby produced a note as his authority from the rector and curate for what he had done. Before the evening service he again entered the church, and thoroughly incensed it, but this time he took care to prevent any interference with what he was doing by locking the door and keeping out the churchwarden. These facts have been reported to the Archbishop.

THE BISHOP OF PETERBOROUGH ON THE POSITION OF THE CHURCH.—On Wednesday the Bishop of Peterborough (Dr. Jeune) presided at the annual meeting of the Church Extension Society for the archdeaconry of Leicester, held at Leicester; and in response to a vote of thanks his lordship referred to the present position of the Church. There had, he said, been more gloomy times for the Church than even the present, but her trials had been overcome, and had, by God's mercy, been turned to His glory. At the same time, one felt it to be a fearful thing when it was manifest that those who were not antagonistic to the Church made it a sort of political gamble. Still, come what might, he would not entertain gloomy apprehensions when he saw churches being reared around him, and remembered that the Word of God was preached faithfully by so many faithful pastors. If they were destined to fall, let them fall with honour, leaving their Church a memory and example. (Hear.) They had been told that Churches were to be destroyed, and with the utmost possible consideration and kindness the patient, after an administration of chloroform, was to be bled to death. (Cheers.) Then they were told that vested rights were to be respected. What were the vested rights of the clergy? When that part of the question was taken away, where were the vested rights of the parishioners? By the munificence of former ages provision had been made for worship, and now it was proposed to take the support away.

MR. DISRAELI ON CHURCH AND STATE.—What can be more anomalous than the present connection between State and Church? Every condition on which it was originally consented to has been cancelled. The original alliance was, in my view, an equal calamity for the nation and the Church; but at least it was an intelligible compact. The only consequences of the present union of Church and State are, that on the side of the State there is perpetual interference in ecclesiastical government, and on the side of the Church a sedulous avoidance of all those principles on which alone Church government can be established, and by which alone can the Church of England again become universal. It (the Church) would do as great things now, if it were divorced from the degrading and tyrannical connection that enchains it. You would have other sons of peasants bishops of England, instead of men appointed to that sacred office solely because they were the needy scions of a factitious aristocracy; men of gross ignorance, profligate habits, and grinding extortion, who have disgraced the episcopal throne and profaned the altar. There is, I think, a rising feeling in the community that Parliamentary interference in matters ecclesiastical has not tended either to the spiritual or the material elevation of the humbler orders. Divorce the Church from the State, and the spiritual power that struggled against the brute force of the dark ages, against tyrannical monarchs and barbarous barons, will struggle again in opposition to influence of a different form, but of a similar tendency, equally selfish, equally insensible, equally barbarising. Holy Church, transformed into a National Establishment, and therefore grumbled at by all the nation for whom it was not supported!

What an inevitable harvest of sedition, radicalism, infidelity! I really think there is no society, however great its resources, that could long resist the united influences of chief magistrate, virtual representation, and Church Establishment.—*From "Coningsby." A Political Novel.*

STATE-CHURCH FANATICISM.—The following "Hint" was lately published in the *Standard*:—"Now, attacked on all sides as the Church of England and Ireland undoubtedly is, it behoves its members to prepare every argument, to rouse every energy, to defend its rights. . . . I ask, then, who amongst its members ever inquires if the butcher, baker, bootmaker, carpenter, cook, grocer, mason, milliner, or wheelwright they employ belongs to a Dissenting body, or for that reason withholds his custom? But let these days be over. . . . Let the Church support her own tradespeople only," &c., &c.

PREPARING FOR THE INEVITABLE CHANGE.—At the Easter Monday vestry of the parish of St. Paul, near Penzance, general business having been amicably transacted and the old officers re-elected, the vicar, the Rev. E. Malone, intimated that the current of public feeling, more particularly as shown by Mr. Gladstone's recent success, indicated that the days of Church-rates were numbered. It behoved them therefore to consider the best means of raising the funds necessary for the repair of the church, &c. He inclined rather to a pew-rent than the offertory. The idea was generally approved.

MR. GLADSTONE AND HIS SLANDERERS.—Archbishop Manning, who was last week paying a visit to Manchester, wrote to a local journal to contradict the statement, "as false as mischievous," that the Pope has directed his thanks to be conveyed, through him, to Mr. Gladstone for his attitude on the subject of the Irish Church. The report, the Archbishop says, "has not so much as a particle of truth or a shadow of foundation." Mr. Gladstone has taken the trouble to contradict as totally false some assertions by a Mr. Hiley, who alleged that it was owing to Mr. Gladstone's "Romanising" efforts that Dr. Wynter, formerly Vice-Chancellor of the University of Oxford, was prevented from obtaining a bishopric.

CHURCH PATRONAGE.—The *Guardian* considers that the following circular, addressed to parish clerks of Government benefices and marked "private," deserves to be made public:—"53, Clapham Park-road, S.W., April 9. Sir,—In the event of any vacancy, by resignation or otherwise, in the living of —, I should be much obliged by your giving me the earliest possible information of such vacancy, and in case it were secured, as it probably would be, for a friend of mine if the present Government were in office, I would take care that you received a gratuity of not less than 20*l.* for your trouble. The expense of any telegram you might send, when necessary to save time as well as postage, would be cheerfully paid by myself.—I am, Sir, yours faithfully, WILFRED P. FOUNTAINE."

MR. DISRAELI AND JUDAISM.—The *Jewish Chronicle* says Disraeli is neither an apostate nor a Jew. He was born of Hebrew parents. His father, Isaac Disraeli, the author, and his mother, a scion of the Basevis, were members of Sephardim Jewish families. His grandfather and grandmother, indeed, rest in the Portuguese cemetery at Mile End. Benjamin Disraeli was admitted into the communion of Israel, but his father thinking fit to quarrel with his synagogue, failed to teach his child Judaism. One day Rogers, the celebrated banker poet, happening to visit at Isaac Disraeli's house at Hackney when Benjamin was about five or six years old, and regretting to find so intelligent a youth without religious instruction, took him to Hackney Church. From this event dates his absolute and complete severance from the Jewish communion. He became a Christian, and a great genius was lost to us.

CHARGE OF HERESY AGAINST THE REV. W. J. E. BENNETT, OF FROME.—The Court of Queen's Bench on Friday granted a rule against the Bishop of London, calling upon him to show cause why a *mandamus* should not issue commanding him to proceed against the Rev. W. J. E. Bennett, the vicar of Frome, for the purpose of making inquiries into certain charges that had been made against him of heresy committed within the diocese of London as well as within the diocese of Bath and Wells, and contained in two publications, one entitled a plea for toleration in a letter to the Rev. Dr. Pusey, and the other an essay, "The Church and the World, 1867." Mr. Bennett, it is averred, believes in the real presence, and adores the consecrated elements.

THE QUEEN AND THE IRISH CHURCH.—The London correspondent of the *Irish Times* says:—"I understand that the Queen has addressed an autograph letter to Lord Westbury. Her Majesty, in anticipation of being called upon by an address from one branch of the legislature 'to place at the disposal of Parliament her interest in the temporalities of the archbishoprics, bishoprics, and other ecclesiastical dignities and benefices in Ireland and in the custody thereof,' is naturally anxious to have the soundest and most experienced advice on the course she should pursue; and, among others, she enlists the able as well as matured judgment of one who, when the keeper of her conscience, originated the Augmentation of Benefices Act. Other law lords, including the present Lord Chancellor, and the most eminent ecclesiastical and constitutional lawyers, have been directed to forward their opinions for the royal guidance on specified branches of the questions raised by Mr. Gladstone's second and third resolutions; and if the Liberal leader pertinaciously proceeds this session beyond the first resolution, I have



heard it said in quarters entitled to all credit, that so strongly does the Sovereign feel an ill-timed party attempt to restrict her spiritual functions in the House of Commons, she will summon to personal conference not only the Premier and the leading members of her Cabinet, but those judicial statesmen and profound lawyers whose written opinions she has commanded to be placed before her.

**THE CONGREGATIONAL BOARD.**—The annual meeting of the Congregational Board was held on Tuesday evening, when the report was presented and the usual business transacted. The Rev. Joshua C. Harrison was elected chairman, and the Rev. John Pillans deputy-chairman, for the ensuing year. The Rev. R. Ashton and the Rev. I. Vale Mummery were re-elected secretaries.

**NONCONFORMISTS AND THE CHURCH.**—The papers on "the best means of bringing Nonconformists into union with the Church," read in October, at the Church Congress, have resulted in a meeting of influential clergymen and laymen from different parts of the country, at Wolverhampton, on the 15th and 16th inst. After a long and interesting discussion it was decided that an association be formed to promote the reunion of Christians at home on the basis of the National Church. The interest excited by this meeting has encouraged the committee to arrange for a further meeting to be held in London, in the month of May, for the formal organisation of the movement.—*Times*. The "union of the Methodists with the Church of England," is discussed by "G. O." (Dr. Osborn) in the *Wesleyan Methodist Magazine* for April. Proposing to inquire calmly whether any such union is practicable or expedient, he points out the preliminary difficulties arising from the purely clerical composition of Convocation, its want of powers, and the necessity of a Parliamentary sanction. He then shows that the union must either set aside or preserve the existing Methodist discipline and doctrines. Upon this view of the case he comes to the conclusion that, in every point, these proposals for union are impracticable, ill-considered, and inexpedient, and recommends those who make them to devote all their efforts to redeeming the Protestant character of their own Church.

**MR. DISRAELI AND THE QUEEN.**—A correspondent of the *Daily News* directs attention to the insidious efforts of the Tory press, which, in this respect, is only following the illegitimate example of the Premier to connect Mr. Disraeli and the Queen in some especial and unusual manner in the defence of the Irish Church Establishment.

When Mr. Disraeli alludes to the constitutional fact—and he often alludes to it—that he holds his position by the favour of the Crown, he does not do so in the ordinary manner, but tries to convey the impression that what he says is true in some peculiar sense. How very unfair, how highly disrespectful, how prejudicial this is to the Queen, I need not point out. The latest illustration of those tactics I have seen is a statement published by one of the cheap Tory Church newspapers in large type, and as "on the best authority," that "Mr. Disraeli has given a pledge to her Majesty not to resign this session." A statement of this kind, which, with pleonastic eagerness, we are assured "is strictly accurate," can only be serviceable to the Tories on account of the insinuation that the Queen had requested Mr. Disraeli to brave the majority of the House of Commons, a representation which would have been too monstrous to put forward in the form of a direct statement. In the same papers you may find a boast that a deputation of archbishops and bishops of the Irish Church intend to seek a personal interview with her Majesty for the purpose of presenting a petition against Mr. Gladstone's resolutions. You will remember that during the recent Reform agitation some of the metropolitan branches of the Reform League proposed a somewhat similar procedure, and were officially informed that all petitions to the Queen must be made through a Minister. Of course these prelates will be informed that the practice has not been changed since then.

**THE VICAR OF FROME AND HIS FLOCK.**—Great excitement took place in Frome on Monday last week, upon the election of churchwardens. In consequence of the election of a Ritualist churchwarden last year, the vicar represented to the Ritual Commission that his parishioners approved of his innovations, and to repudiate this a decisive demonstration was made on Monday, when an immense concourse gathered at the vestry. Mr. Bennett, after endeavouring to explain away his remarks before the Commissioners, nominated his warden, and two of his partisans proposed and seconded the re-election of Mr. E. Baily as parish warden. Mr. G. W. Sheppard proposed as an amendment that Mr. Henry Cockey serve the office. This amendment having been duly seconded, the vicar declined to put it to the meeting, and said it was illegal, the custom having been to elect the warden for one year, but that he should serve for two years. He should stay the proceedings, and not allow them to carry the amendment. The vestry-clerk, having been appealed to for the law of the case, decided against the vicar. Mr. Bennett refused to give way, and ultimately (by the advice of the clerk) Lieutenant Sheppard was elected chairman (the vicar protesting against the step), and Mr. Cockey was then duly proposed, seconded, and elected by an overwhelming majority. Mr. J. W. Singer, having consulted the vicar, demanded a poll for Mr. Baily, which was fixed to take place on the two following days. After the majority of the ratepayers, the second chairman, and the vestry-clerk had left the meeting, the vicar and his friends went through the process of electing Mr. Baily. The polling, however, took place on Tuesday and Wednesday, when Mr. Cockey was elected by 805 votes to 473. It is said that Mr. Bennett will dispute the election.

## ANNIVERSARIES IN APRIL, MAY, AND JUNE, 1868.

## MEETINGS.

Day.	Hour.	Institution or Society.	Chairman.	Place of Assembly.
APRIL.				
23 Thur.	7 p.m.	Working Men's Lord's Day Rest Association .....	Sir C. Fox .....	Exeter Hall.
24 Fri.	2½ "	Society for Prop. of the Gospel .....	Archbishop of Canterbury .....	St. James's Hall.
27 Mon.	6½ "	Bible Translation Society .....	H. Kelsall, Esq. ....	Kingsgate-street Chapel.
28 Tues.	3 "	Incorporated Ch. Bldg. Society .....	Archbishop of Canterbury .....	Willis's Rooms.
	6½ "	Religious Tract Society .....	D. M'Laren, Esq., M.P. ....	Exeter Hall.
	6½ "	Baptist Home Mission .....	H.S.P. Winterbotham, Esq. ....	Bloombury Chapel.
29 Wed.	2½ "	Ch. of Eng. Scrip. Readers' Asso. ....	Bishop of Ripon .....	Hanover-square Rooms.
30 Thur.	6½ "	Baptist Missionary Society .....	Henry Kelsall, Esq. ....	Exeter Hall.
	7 "	Christian Community .....	Capt. Fishbourne, R.N. ....	165, Aldersgate-street.
MAY.				
1 Fri.	7 "	Young Men's Baptist Missionary Society .....	Sheriff McArthur .....	Metropolitan Tabernacle.
2 Sat.	9 a.m.	Wesleyan Miss. Society—China .....	Sheriff McArthur .....	Lon. Tavern, Bishopsgate.
4 Mon.	11 "	Wesleyan Missionary Society .....	Isaac Holden, Esq., M.P. ....	Exeter Hall.
	1½ p.m.	Home and Colonial School Society .....	Earl of Chichester .....	Soc. House, Gray's Inn-rd.
	7 "	National Temperance League .....	W. D. Lucas-Shadwell, [Esq., J.P.,	Exeter Hall.
5 Tues.	11 & 6 "	Liberation Society (Conference) .....	Earl of Chichester .....	Cannon-street Hotel.
	11 a.m.	Church Missionary Society .....	Chas. Curling, Esq. ....	Exet. Hall.
	6½ p.m.	Aged Pilgrims' Friend Society .....		165, Aldersgate-st., City.
	7 "	Church Missionary Society .....		Exeter Hall.
	7½ "	London Free and Open Church Society .....		
6 Wed.	11 a.m.	Liberation Society (Conference) .....	Dean of York .....	Freemasons' Hall.
	6 p.m.	Disso (Soiree) .....	J. Hy. Tillett, Esq. ....	Cannon St. Hotel.
	11 a.m.	British and Foreign Bible Society .....	Earl of Shaftesbury, K.G. ....	Hanover-square Rooms.
	7 p.m.	Ragged Church and Chapel Union .....	Earl of Cavan .....	Exeter Hall.
	7 "	Systematic Benevolence Association .....		Exeter Hall.
7 Thurs.	11 a.m.	London City Mission .....	Earl of Cavan .....	Exeter Hall.
	11 "	Irish Society .....	Archbishop of Armagh .....	Hanover-square Roma.
	2 p.m.	Church Pastoral-Aid Society .....	Earl of Shaftesbury, K.G. ....	St. James's Hall.
	3 "	Royal Naval Scri. Readers' Society .....	Rt. Hon. H. T. L. Corry, M.P. ....	Willis's Rooms.
	6 "	Evangelical Alliance .....	Earl of Chichester .....	Freemasons' Hall.
	6 "	Sunday School Union .....	Hon. A. F. Kinnsaird, M.P. ....	Exeter Hall.
8 Fri.	11 a.m.	Society for Promoting Christianity among the Jews .....	Earl of Shaftesbury, K.G. ....	Exeter Hall.
	9 "	Protestant Alliance (Breakfast) .....	Lord Fitzwalter .....	Freemasons' Hall.
11 Mon.	12 noon	British and Foreign School Society .....	Earl Russell, K.G. ....	Borough-road (Large Room)
	2½ p.m.	Colonial and Continental Church Society .....	Earl of Shaftesbury, K.G. ....	St. James's Hall.
	2½ "	Protestant Reformation Society .....	Adm. Vernon Harcourt .....	Willis's Rooms.
	7 "	Irish Evangelical Society .....	Charles Reed, Esq. F.S.A. ....	Poultry Chapel.
12 Tues.	6 a.m.	Young Men's Christian Association .....	J. C. Colquhoun, Esq. ....	165, Aldersgate-st., City.
	6 p.m.	Irish Church Missions .....	Sheriff McArthur .....	St. James's Hall.
	6½ "	Primitive Methodist Miss. Society .....		Metropolitan Tabernacle.
	6½ "	British Society for Propagation of the Gospel among the Jews .....	Major-General Barrows .....	Freemasons' Hall.
	6½ "	Seamen's Christian Friend Society .....	Lieut.-Col. Brookman .....	Seamen's Upl., St. Geo.-st.
	7 "	Home Missionary Society .....	Samuel Morley, Esq. ....	Finbury Chapel.
13 Wed.	2½ "	South American Missionary Society .....		London Tavern.
	2½ "	Liturgical Revision Association .....	Lord Ebury .....	Willis's Rooms.
	6½ "	Colonial Missionary Society .....	George Leeman, Esq. M.P. ....	Wigh-house Chapel.
14 Thurs.	10 a.m.	London Missionary Society .....	W. E. Baxter, Esq., M.P. ....	Exet. Hall.
	5½ p.m.	Cong. Board of Education .....	Samuel Morley, Esq. ....	Lower Clapton, Cong. Ch.
15 Fri.	2½ "	Mission to Seamen .....	Adml. Sir John D. Hay, Bt. ....	Willis's Rooms.
18 Mon.	3 "	Christian Vernacular Edcatn. Soc. ....	Earl of Shaftesbury, K.G. ....	Willis's Rooms.
19 Tues.	2 "	British and Foreign Sailors' Society .....	Thomson Hankey, Esq. ....	London Tavern.
	3 "	Foreign-Aid Society .....		Hanover-square Rooms.
	6½ "	Peace Society .....	Joseph Pease, Esq. ....	Finbury Chapel.
	6½ "	British and Foreign Sailors' Society .....		Sailors' Institute, Shadwl.
20 Wed.	6½ "	Evangelical Continental Society .....	R. N. Fowler, Esq. ....	Exeter Hall (Lower Room)
25 Mon.	6 "	United Kingdom Band of Hope Union .....		Willis's Rooms.
		Pure Literature Society .....	Earl of Shaftesbury, K.G. ....	Willis's Rooms.
27 Wed.				
JUNE.				
22 Mon.	7 "	Christian Community .....	Robert Baxter, Esq. ....	London Tavern.
25 Thurs.	2 "	Society for the Prop. of the Gospel .....	The Lord Mayor .....	Mansion House.

## Religious and Denominational News.

**TRINITY CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, WALTHAMSTOW.**—A public recognition service of the Rev. W. S. H. Fielden (late of Victoria Parade, Melbourne, and one of the secretaries of the Victorian Congregational Union), was held in the Public Hall on Wednesday, the 8th inst. The Rev. Alex. Mackinnal, B.A. (Surbiton), Samuel McAll (Hackney College), C. Dukes, M.A. (Dalston), E. T. Egg, B. Beddow, John Davies, W. H. Hooper, J. E. Tunmer, &c., took part in the service. It is intended speedily to erect a new church adequate to the need of the congregation in this growing neighbourhood.

**FARSLEY.**—On Tuesday the foundation stone of a new Baptist chapel was laid at Farsley by Mr. John Smith, of Bradford. Prayers were offered by the Rev. E. Parker, the minister of the Baptist congregation at Farsley, and a suitable address delivered by the Rev. H. Dowson, of Bury College. The new chapel will seat eleven hundred persons, and the total cost of it, including fencing, lighting, and warming, will be 3,500*l.*, towards which at least 2,000 has been already obtained. After the laying of the stone tea was provided, and a public meeting held in the old chapel, which was crowded to excess. Mr. A. Illingworth, of Bradford, presided, and many ministers were present, including the Rev. S. G. Green, the Rev. W. Best, the Rev. R. Holmes, the Rev. Jonathan Makepeace, the Rev. J. S. Anderson, &c.

**UNION CHAPEL, SHIRLEY, SOUTHAMPTON.**—The first anniversary of the reopening of this chapel was celebrated on Easter Sunday and Monday. On Sunday two sermons were preached by the Rev. E. G. Gange, of Landport, to large congregations, the place being in the evening crowded to excess. On Monday a sale of useful and ornamental articles was held in the schoolroom, the object of the sale being to aid in the liquidation of the remaining debt. The sale was an entire success. In the evening a public tea-meeting was held in the chapel, which was again quite full. The Rev. Wm. Heaton occupied the chair, and addresses were delivered by the Revs. S. Higman, R. Caven, B.A., C. Williams, S. Simcox, and several laymen. The interest of the meeting was sustained throughout. The amount raised by the sale and the collections is sufficient to accomplish all, and more

than all, that the friends had desired. All the speakers warmly congratulated the pastor and the church on the progress that has been made during the last two years.

**LYTHAM, LANCASHIRE.**—The Rev. S. Clarkson was publicly recognised as minister of the Congregational Church, Lytham, on April 10th. Services were held in the church in the afternoon, in which the Revs. H. Ling, of Fleetwood; H. J. Martyn, of Preston; J. Muncester, of Manchester; J. Armitage, of Elswick; A. Thomson, M.A., of Manchester; and W. Paton, of Atherstone, took part; after which a tea-meeting was held in the Assembly-room, which was filled to overflowing, when addresses were delivered by various ministers and friends.

**CONGREGATIONALISM IN BERMONDSEY.**—A public meeting was held on Tuesday last week at the Iron Chapel, Blue Anchor-road, on behalf of the movement for the erection of a new chapel. The chair was occupied by the Rev. Gilbert M'All. The report sketched the history of the present chapel since its erection about four years since, and stated that there were at present 90 members, and frequently 400 children in the schools. The site had been engaged for a period which would shortly expire, and the new one would cost 775*l.* The total required for the new site and building would be between 3,000*l.* and 4,000*l.* Towards this amount promises had been received from Mr. Samuel Morley, 500*l.*; the Chapel Building Society, 500*l.*; Mr. W. W. Beare, 150*l.*; Mr. W. Tarn, of Newington, 150*l.*; Mr. Samuel Bevington, 50*l.*; in addition to which about 180*l.* were promised during the evening.

**BURLEIGH.**—On Good Friday the annual tea-meeting of the Congregational church was held, with which was blended the recognition of the Rev. J. Fernie. After the usual report of the Sunday-school, and an admirable speech upon it by the Rev. T. Cocker, of Stoke, and a few words from Mr. Garlick, the superintendent of the Sunday-school, the Rev. S. B. Handley, of Stafford, spoke upon Congregational Church principles. The Rev. James Legge, M.A., of Hanley, in an eloquent address expounded the principles of Nonconformists with regard to the connection of Church and State. The Rev. S. Jones, of Longton, then asked for the usual statement on behalf of the church as to the settlement of their minister, which was given by Mr.



W. Woodall, one of the deacons. After the confession of faith made by the minister, the Rev. S. Jones, in the name of his brethren and the church, gave Mr. Farnie a welcome to his sphere of labour. The Rev. D. Horne, B.A., of Hanley, then spoke upon the relation of pastor and people, dwelling especially on the fact that no priestism was recognised in ministers as such. The qualifications demanded were, first of all, real piety, and then such talents and habits as would enable him to minister effectively the good word of God. The chair was taken by the senior deacon, Mr. Boon. During the evening several anthems were sung by the choir.

WOLLERTON.—A new Congregational church, capable of accommodating two hundred worshippers, was opened for Divine worship on Tuesday last week. There were two services in the day. Sermons were preached by the Rev. Henry Oliver, B.A., of Newport, Monmouthshire, in the afternoon, and the Rev. J. B. Brown, of Wrexham, in the evening. The chief devotional exercises were conducted by the Rev. D. D. Evans, of Bridgnorth, and the Rev. George Kettle, of Shrewsbury. At each service there was a crowded congregation. Between the services there was a tea-meeting, at which some five hundred persons were present. The expense of the new church, and the necessary alterations and repairs, is about 1,000*l.* Of this amount 400*l.* had been raised before the opening day; and on that day the very liberal sum of 60*l.* was contributed. The people are engaged in preparing for a bazaar. The Rev. W. Lloyd is the minister.

SERVICE OF SONG IN NEWCASTLE.—On Tuesday evening, March 31, a meeting of the choirs of the principal Congregational churches of Newcastle and the surrounding districts, was held in the Town Hall, Newcastle. A special train was run by the North-Eastern Railway Company from Barnardcastle and stations between that place and Newcastle, by which about 800 persons were conveyed. The Mayor of Newcastle, H. Angus, Esq., presided on the occasion. The orchestra was filled to repletion by the singers, upwards of 550 voices being assembled. There was a rehearsal in the afternoon, and in the evening the body of the hall, the side elevations, and the gallery, were all but filled by a large audience. As the object of those at the head of the movement is solely the improvement of congregational psalmody, the pieces selected were, with one or two exceptions, such as might be fitly used in the worship of our churches. The conductor was Mr. James Hall, jun., of Durham, who fulfilled his arduous duties with great energy and efficiency. Mr. Rea, the corporation organist, presided at the organ. Especially considering that the twenty-one choirs who took part in the service had never before sung together, their performance was admirable. Early in the course of the proceedings prayer was offered by the Rev. S. Goodall, of Durham, and afterwards, at intervals, brief, but highly appropriate addresses were delivered by the Rev. W. Darwent, of Barnardcastle, and the Rev. Geo. Stewart, of Newcastle.

THE SOCIETY OF FRIENDS.—There is, it seems, a good deal of dissension amongst the Society of Friends at Manchester, which forms the largest congregation of members of the society in Great Britain. It appears that several influential Friends at Manchester have, for some years past, been engaged in publishing pamphlets, or otherwise promulgating sentiments on religious questions, which are accordant in various respects with the views contained in the writings of Bishop Colenso and "Essays and Reviews." In particular this new school of Friends entertain views tending to derogate from the authority of the Holy Scriptures, and to weaken a belief in the Divinity of our Saviour, in the propitiatory nature of His death on the Cross, and in the actuality of His miracles. All the official ministers and elders of that large congregation of Friends are united in a desire to suppress the new movement. The adherents of the latter have, however, become so numerous and influential that a special assistance has had to be invoked from the general community of Friends in Lancashire. Accordingly this body has appointed a deputation to support the ministers and elders of Manchester. But, according to a statement in the *Christian World*, at "the meeting for discipline," which has just taken place there, the adherents of the new school of Friends mustered in sufficient force to counteract and prevent any adverse exercise of Church authority, at least for the present. Thus the matter remains.

HOWARD CHAPEL, BEDFORD.—On Tuesday, April 7, the Rev. W. Parker Irving, late of New College, St. John's-wood, was publicly recognised as the pastor of Howard Chapel, Bedford, of which the late Rev. W. Allott was for many years the esteemed pastor. A number of ministers and members of churches of various denominations in the town and neighbourhood were present on the occasion. The Rev. John Frost, of Cotton End, asked the usual questions; the Rev. Thomas Jones, of Bedford Chapel, London, offered the prayer; and the Rev. Robert Halley, D.D., gave the charge to the minister. The following ministers also took part in the service:—The Revs. John Lang (Moravian), O. R. Plague, Sheffield, R. Speed (Baptist), John Relf (Wesleyan), J. J. Irving, Melton Mowbray, brother of the newly-elected pastor, and G. A. Christie, M.A., New College. After the morning service a cold collation was provided for the ministers and friends in the schoolroom. Dr. Halley presided, and having taken a review of the progress and success attending the Nonconformist organisations in Bedford and elsewhere, he congratulated Mr. Irving on his good fortune in being placed over so seemingly loving a people, and also the church and congregation in that they had chosen so good and faithful a minister. The Rev. Thomas Jones, of Bedford Chapel, London, next addressed the meeting at some length, and in the

course of his remarks spoke in highly eulogistic terms of his young friend, the newly-ordained minister. Mr. Anthony, the Rev. P. Griffiths, Mr. Rowland Hill, and others, also spoke. A well-attended tea-meeting at the Bedford Rooms followed, the pastor presiding. At seven o'clock service was held in the chapel, which was densely crowded, when the Rev. Thomas Jones preached a most eloquent sermon to the church and congregation from the latter part of the 15th verse of the 3rd chapter of 1st Timothy, "The Church of the living God the pillar and ground of the truth." The following ministers also took part in this service:—The Revs. R. Collins, Wootton; B. Buckhouse, H. S. Tours, Enfield; T. Voysey, Sandy; and P. Griffiths, Biggleswade.

GARSTANG.—The congregation of the Independent chapel in this place, having for a number of years felt the necessity of its renovation, and having unexpectedly the opportunity of purchasing the land upon which it stands, resolved, and chiefly through the praiseworthy efforts of Miss M. Bell, have succeeded, in effecting the purchase of the site, and in almost rebuilding the chapel. It is now in comfort and appearance all that can be desired. The cost of these alterations has been 318*l.*, and this, with the sum of 100*l.* paid for the site, makes the total expenditure 418*l.* To meet this outlay subscriptions were obtained to the amount of 287*l.*, which, with a reserved fund of 70*l.*, and interest, made up a total of 362*l.*, leaving a deficit of about 56*l.* On Easter Monday the Rev. E. Mellor, of Halifax, reopened the chapel, and preached an able and practical sermon from Heb. xii. 1, to a large and attentive congregation, assembled from the neighbouring district and towns of Lancaster and Preston. At the close of the service the friends sat down to a substantial tea at the institute, given and provided by ladies connected with, or friendly to, the congregation. After tea the company returned to the chapel, where a meeting was held, over which Mr. Crompton, of Blackpool, presided, and addresses were delivered by Mr. Mellor, of Halifax, Mr. Dawson, sen., of Lancaster, and Messrs. Edwards, Mercer, Cox, Edleston, H. and T. Smith. A vote of thanks was unanimously passed to the donors, far and near, who have so generously aided this undertaking. The collection after the sermon, and the proceeds of the tea, amounted to the sum of £40.

LONDON BAPTIST ASSOCIATION.—The quarterly meeting of this association was held on Tuesday last week at Camden-road Chapel. In the morning, the ministers met in good numbers, and three papers were read, one by the Rev. R. Wallace, of Tottenham, on Ministerial Character; another by the Rev. T. Goadby, B.A., on Ministerial Responsibilities; and the third by the Rev. C. H. Spurgeon, on the Management of the Voice. Dinner was provided in the schoolroom, after which speeches were delivered by the Rev. F. Tucker, Mr. W. Walters, the President (Rev. Dr. Landels), the Revs. H. Bayley, of Kingston, and W. Webb, late of Ipswich. In the afternoon the delegates joined the ministers, and the usual business of the association was transacted. The Secretary (Rev. W. G. Lewis) reported that a site had been obtained at Clapton, and that the friends there would ere long proceed with the erection of a new chapel. It was urged that the churches should, as soon as possible, send in their subscriptions towards the 1,500*l.* promised by the association to this new effort. Mr. J. Templeton, amid much cheering, proposed the adoption of the following resolutions, with a petition on the subject, in favour of Mr. Gladstone's motion for the disestablishment of the Irish Church:—

1. That the continued existence of the Irish Episcopal Establishment is unjust and impolitic; that it excites the discontent of the great majority of the people; is a hindrance to good government, and is injurious to the cause of Protestantism itself.
2. That the only just and safe method of securing religious equality, and of putting an end to existing animosities, is the adoption by the Legislature of a system of impartial disendowment of all religious bodies in Ireland.
3. That the proposition of the Government to grant a royal charter to a Roman Catholic University to be endowed by the State is highly objectionable in principle, and would only increase existing evils.
4. That the resolutions proposed by Mr. Gladstone for the disestablishment in the first instance of the Irish Church with due regard to vested interests, present a satisfactory solution of the difficulties, and are worthy the acceptance of the Parliament and the country.
5. That a petition to the House of Commons in accordance with the foregoing resolutions be signed by the President on behalf of the meeting.

In a very suitable speech Mr. Templeton supported these resolutions, and said he believed, and the executive of the Liberation Society believed, that all their efforts would be required at this momentous crisis to effect their object of disestablishing the iniquitous Irish State Church. The adoption of the resolutions was seconded by the Rev. S. H. Booth, of Holloway Chapel, and heartily supported by the Rev. W. Brock. The Rev. C. H. Spurgeon and the Rev. James Spurgeon both advocated the objects of the petition, the former stating that he had sent 180 forms of petition to the pastors who had belonged to his college, for signature by the members of their respective churches. The Rev. F. Trestrail corrected an impression that seemed to prevail, that petitions were not of much use, and that the number of petitioners were not taken notice of, and stated that there was a committee in the House of Commons who reported to the House the number of petitions and signatures sent up to them. The motion was unanimously carried, and Messrs. Landels, Brock, Lewis, and Harvey, were appointed as a deputation to the triennial conference of the Liberation Society to represent the association. In the evening the chapel was filled with an attentive congregation. Prayers were offered by the Revs. F. Tucker, J. W. Genders, S. H. Booth, and W. Woods; and a suitable chapter was read by the President, the Rev. Dr. Landels. An earnest address was given by the Rev. C. B. Sawday,

of Pentonville, on the importance of decision for Christ; and was followed by a most powerful discourse on the necessity of holding fast to the truths of Scripture, by the Rev. W. Brock; and the Rev. C. H. Spurgeon gave an eloquent address, which was based on the chapter read by the President.

EASTER MEETINGS OF THE EAST LONDON CHRISTIAN MISSION.—On Good Friday, two meetings took place in connection with the above—one at Poplar, at which 300 were present, the other in the new East London Theatre, Whitechapel, where a thousand sat down to tea. During the day, open-air services were held at each place for preaching the Gospel, and at both, after tea, the meetings were addressed by various friends engaged in or sympathising with the movement. On Easter Monday, a gathering of the members of the Mission was held, under the presidency of the Rev. William Booth, in St. Mary's Schoolroom, Whitechapel, kindly lent for the purpose by the rector, the Rev. J. Cohen. About 800 partook of the repast, after which there followed one of the most enthusiastic meetings we ever recollect attending. The room was crowded, and there must have been quite 1,500 present, the great bulk of whom had been brought to Christ through the instrumentality of the Mission. No more interesting sight could be found out of heaven than the faces of these hundreds of working men and women, lit up with joy as they listened to the friends addressing them, and still more so as they joined in singing the cheering hymn. Mr. Booth delivered a long address, in which he gave the history of the Mission, from its beginning in a tent erected in the Quakers' Burial Ground to the present time, at which it presents a degree of success quite surpassing the most sanguine expectations of many with regard to East-end evangelism. It now occupies twelve stations for preaching, affording accommodation for 7,000 persons, entirely free. During the week 120 services are held, out-door and in, by means of which the glad news of salvation is preached, on an average, to 14,000 of the masses, an immense proportion of which number would not otherwise come within its influence. Fourteen persons are entirely engaged in the work, assisted by hundreds of unpaid helpers, while 50*l.* a week is required to meet the expenditure, the whole of which is supplied by voluntary contributions. The speakers were very numerous on this occasion, and a hallowed influence was realised at the meeting from first to last. The proceedings did not terminate till nearly eleven o'clock, when Mr. Booth pronounced the benediction, and about 400 of the friends went along the Mile-end-road in a body singing a hymn and chorus.

## Correspondence.

### COLLEGE AMALGAMATION.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

SIR,—I very much regret, in the interest of the colleges Mr. J. P. Clapham has so long and efficiently served, that he has not followed the good advice he gave to others, and confined the discussion of the question arising out of the proposed amalgamation of Airedale and Rotherham Colleges to the meetings of the constituents, as I am quite sure no good can come from correspondence in the public prints on so delicate a matter, and so far as I am concerned, it shall cease with this communication. Indeed, all would have been glad if Mr. Clapham's letter had been of such a nature as not to provoke a reply. But, as one of those who think that the claims of Bradford have been "ignored," and probably the person whom he is pleased to call a "zealous partisan," I feel there is no other course but by your kind permission to give the facts of the case drawn from Mr. Clapham's letter, which appeared in your last issue, and the published report of the joint committee; and your readers must judge whether as Mr. Clapham states, "nothing could be more erroneous than the statement that the claims of Bradford had been ignored." The instructions for the guidance of the joint committee as to the site were, "that the new institution be near one of the large towns of the West Riding." Now, what are the facts of the case? At the committee's "first meeting," it appears from Mr. Clapham's letter, they came to the conclusion to withdraw the claims of both Rotherham and Bradford. Such being their decision, there was of course no necessity to look for sites near either of these towns; and we find accordingly that they determined to advertise for sites in the neighbourhood of Leeds and Wakefield only, "those being central towns, but not to refuse consideration to any other site which might be offered," thus practically circumscribing the area over which they were instructed to look for sites, and limiting their inquiries to only two of the principal towns of the Riding, a limitation that they had no right whatever to make. At the second meeting five sites were under consideration, and the Newton Hall estate site, near Leeds, was recommended.

At the third meeting they were about to adopt the Newton Hall estate site, when the decision was postponed for three weeks, as the friends at Wakefield thought they had other suitable sites to offer. The committee met again, and decided that none of the Wakefield sites were suitable; and at this point the fact appears to have begun to dawn upon their minds that they had not been acting in accordance with their instructions, and they agreed to advertise for sites near the other large towns of the West Riding, including, of course, Rotherham and Bradford. I think even Mr. Clapham will agree that Bradford was entirely



"ignored" up to this point; and as we pursue the history of the doings of the committee we shall find that such was the case to the end. In brief, they had under their consideration one site at Huddersfield, three at Rotherham, five at Wakefield, nine at Leeds, and not one at Bradford. Now, Sir, I think your readers will be of the opinion that to say, "We have no sites to offer" (as the Bradford portion of the committee reported to have said), does not meet the question, and we naturally ask why were there no sites to offer? Certainly it was not because there are none; indeed, we have been vain enough to suppose that the scenery in our neighbourhood is of an unusually attractive character, and that several suitable sites can be got; and surely it was not too much to have expected of the committee that they would have taken into their consideration that Airedale College has long had a home here, that a deep interest is taken in its welfare, that it has been a prosperous institution, that its real and funded property amounts to about 20,000*l.*, and that for these reasons they would have taken special pains to look for a site in this neighbourhood. Instead of which, they give their special attention to other districts; and it was only when they were about to come to the final decision that they thought that they had not done justice to Bradford. And all that they did do afterwards was to insert an advertisement in the local newspaper, which practically amounted to nothing, as very few would see it, and few owners of land would ever think of answering an application coming in that way. Here I think that the result exactly corresponded to the energy and business tact that was displayed in the matter. I have thus endeavoured to present a temperate and impartial view of the case, and regret that Mr. Clapham has been led in his letter to make some offensive observations which he could not but know would cause annoyance and produce that bitterness of feeling which he says he is so desirous to avoid, and has taken so little pains to prevent.

I now must leave your readers to determine whether I had sufficient grounds for saying that Bradford has been "ignored" in the matter of the site.

I am, Sir, yours sincerely,  
A. S. WILSON.

Bradford, April 20, 1868.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

SIR,—I am glad to observe in your paper of the 15th instant, Mr. Clapham's answer to the statement made at the late constituents' meeting at Airedale College and elsewhere, that "the claims of Bradford had been ignored in the matter of selecting a site" for the amalgamated college.

Perhaps Mr. Clapham will allow me to supplement his letter by calling attention to the fact that in addition to the opportunities for the offer of a site near Bradford which he mentions, a still further opportunity was given, inasmuch as at a meeting of the united committee, subsequent to the one referred to by Mr. Clapham, it was decided that, notwithstanding the previous relinquishment by the delegates from the two colleges of the claims of Bradford and Rotherham, it would be expedient to advertise in all the large towns of the Riding (including Bradford, of course) for the offer of sites; and this was done on the suggestion of a Bradford constituent of Airedale College for the very purpose of obviating the possibility of any change of partiality against the committee.

In answer to this advertisement, sites were offered and actually inspected in the neighbourhood of several towns, of which Rotherham was one, but no site near Bradford was offered.

This appeared in the committee's report, and, being considered along with the facts mentioned by Mr. Clapham, I cannot understand how the statement that the claims of Bradford had been ignored could have been made.

The Rev. J. A. Savage, the senior secretary of the united committee, and secretary of Airedale College, can confirm what I say if confirmation is needed.

I would add that I hope the Airedale constituents will take care that this question is settled one way or the other at their annual meeting in June next; because if the friends at Bradford are to have "everything their own way," the sooner it is known the better, in order that we at Rotherham may be able to estimate our position with reference to the whole question of amalgamation.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,  
J. W. PYE-SMITH,

One of the Secretaries of the United Committee and of Rotherham College.

Sheffield, April 20, 1868.

#### A CORRECTION.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

SIR,—Some years since, a beneficed clergyman remarked to me that there was so much good in the Prayer-book, that it atoned for all the nonsense which had been left in it. I hope that those who read the report of the Liberation Society's meetings at Liverpool and Manchester, may say the same of my speech at each place. One error of the press, however, involves such a reckless unfounded assertion, that I must beg the favour of your allowing me to correct it, as your summary is evidently taken from these erroneous reports.

I never said that I knew many clergymen of the Established Church who were in favour of the disestablishment of the Irish Church. I will not burden your columns with what I really did say, as it is of no importance to your readers.

Your obedient servant,  
CHRISTOPHER NEVILE.

Thorney, April 16.

#### THE PROTESTANT ALLIANCE.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

SIR,—For some years I have subscribed to the Protestant Alliance, which I have been wont to regard with feelings akin to the British and Foreign Bible Society—viz., as an unsectarian platform upon which Protestants of all denominations agreed to merge minor distinctions in order to wage war with greater effect against the common foe. A few days ago I received the monthly letter of the Alliance, which to my great astonishment covered a paper in defence of the Irish Church Establishment, which I beg to enclose. It bears the imprint and object of the Alliance in conspicuous type, "To maintain and defend against all the encroachments of Popery the Scriptural doctrines of the Reformation, and the principles of religious liberty, as the best security, under God, for the temporal and spiritual welfare of this kingdom." Possibly the "Scriptural doctrines of the Reformation" and the "Irish Church" are synonymous in the eyes of the Alliance executive, otherwise I should like to know upon what principle of right or reason they can use its funds to bolster up the most indefensible of all ecclesiastical Establishments? What would be thought of the committee of the Bible Society if they were to do likewise? If those excellent men who constitute the executive of the Protestant Alliance deem it right to form an Irish Church Defence Alliance, and to gather contributions for that purpose, let them do so in the face of day, but let them restrain their hands from misappropriating funds contributed for a more important object.

#### A PROTESTANT NONCON.

April 16, 1868.

#### THE VOLUNTEERS.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

SIR,—From your remarks in the Nonconformist of this date in reference to the volunteers, it appears you are coming to the conclusion at which many have arrived before you—i.e., that the Volunteer force does not diminish the heavy annual expenditure upon our regular army.

Neither will it; and whosoever expects such a result may look for disappointment. On the contrary, is anything so likely to increase our military expenditure as the warlike spirit in which Young England is being educated by our present system of domestic soldiery?

Uniforms and kettle-drums, rifles and swords, bullets and bayonets, are now our household gods, drifting us, in more ways than one, further and further from Christian principles, and popularising the idea that killing is not murder.

I am, yours respectfully,  
F. J. T.

Bridgwater, April 15.

#### EAST LONDON CHRISTIAN MISSION.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

DEAR SIR,—A few weeks ago we commenced a mission in Stratford; the neighbourhood is dreadfully dark, not two in a hundred of the working classes attending any place of worship. The people not coming to us—we, as is our usage, go out into the streets to them; this has brought upon us the most bitter persecution, but amidst the storm many have been awakened, and some who scoffed the most bitterly have been hopefully saved. The other Sunday a young man was on his knees in a public-house mimicking "Jemmy Lamb, the Ranter," as he nicknamed the devoted brother who takes the oversight of the mission there. The Lord laid his afflictive hand on him the same night; he was afterwards deeply convinced of sin, and is now rejoicing with the despised people of God.

In this short time over twenty have been brought into fellowship, and we are full of hope of a great ingathering to the fold of our dear Saviour. But the room is unsuitable, being small and hid away in a dark by-lane. The Unitarian chapel, situated in the main thoroughfare, right out among the people, is for sale, and I want to purchase it for a people's mission hall; the price asked is 250*l.*, lease thirty-four years, ground rent only 7*l.* 10*s.*, with sufficient room for making the place as large again, which we shall soon require. One friend has engaged to be responsible for 40*l.*, another has promised 25*l.*, and another 10*l.*

Thinking that many other Christian friends will be glad to help this project forward, I lay it before your readers, all of whom will, I am sure, rejoice to hear that never had we such gracious manifestations in the mission as of late.

Help may be forwarded to the treasurers, John McCall, 137, Houndsditch; N. J. Powell, 101, White-chapel; or to

WILLIAM BOOTH.

1, Cambridge-lodge Villas, Hackney.

ARREST OF FENIANS AT BUCKINGHAM PALACE.—Two men of the striking Irish-American type were arrested about nine o'clock last night, near Buckingham Palace. In a basket carried by one of them was found a large quantity of Greek fire in a jar or bottle. The prisoners will, in due course, be brought before a magistrate.

#### Postscript.

Wednesday, April 22, 1868.

#### THE ABYSSINIAN EXPEDITION.

Sir Stafford Northcote has received the three following telegrams from Sir Robert Napier:—

1 (without date). Head-quarters and first brigade crossing Takazze, and ascend to the plain of Wadela: height 10,600 feet. Theodore on the Bashelo. Prisoners well. Troops well.

2. Dated Camp Deldei, March 25.—Head-quarters reach Enade to-morrow, and Mochet on the 27th: all going on well. News from prisoners: Rassam released from chains, and treated civilly.

3. Dated April 1.—Head-quarters and first brigade at Abdicoin, ten miles from the Idda river. Second brigade twelve miles in rear, with elephant batteries. Will concentrate at Sindia, on left bank of the Idda, while Theodore's road across is being repaired. Distance from river Bashelo twenty miles, from Magdala thirty miles. Latest news from prisoners 25th March; all well. Troops all well.

#### HOUSE OF COMMONS.

No reference was made at last night's sitting to the Irish Church question, or the intentions of the Government. There was a brief discussion on a motion made by Mr. AYRTON as to the moving of reductions of votes in supply. On the suggestion of Mr. DISRAELI, however, the debate was adjourned for a week, and then the Capital Punishment in Prisons Bill came on for discussion. On the motion to go into committee on the bill, Mr. GILPIN brought forward an amendment, the effect of which was that it is desirable that capital punishment should be wholly abolished. Mr. GILPIN supported his amendment in an able speech full of facts and arguments demonstrative of the impolicy in all respects of the death penalty. Mr. MILL, while praising the motives of those who objected to capital punishment, contended that it was necessary for the safety of society and most merciful to the criminal. The result of the debate was that Mr. Gilpin's amendment was negatived by 127 votes to 23. The House went into committee and considered the provisions of the Bill.

The Religious, &c. Buildings (Sites) Bill passed through committee.

The Artisans and Labourers' Dwellings Bill also passed through committee, but it was understood that certain of the provisions should be further discussed on the report.

The House adjourned at twenty-five minutes to twelve.

THE ROYAL VISIT TO IRELAND.—Yesterday, at the University of Dublin, the honorary degree of Doctor of Laws was formally conferred on the Prince of Wales, the Duke of Cambridge, and the Marquis of Abercorn. The Vice-Chancellor Napier and Chief Justice Whiteside delivered addresses on the occasion. The students gave their Royal Highnesses and the Lord-Lieutenant a most enthusiastic reception. Subsequently the royal party were present at the ceremony of unveiling Mr. Foley's statue of Edmund Burke in front of Trinity College. Later the Prince of Wales visited the Roman Catholic University, the Irish Academy, and attended a conversation given by the Royal Dublin Society. It is expected that their Royal Highnesses will leave Dublin on Friday, and visit Carnarvon on Saturday.

THE TRIAL OF THE FENIAN PRISONERS was resumed yesterday, and the cross-examination of Mullany, the approver, took place. The Lord Chief Justice cautioned him against putting words of his own into the mouth of the prisoners, a habit in which he frequently indulges. His motive for giving information was because he thought English was going to do the same thing, and he concluded it was better to be first in the race. He was not certain that he was not told by the warders of the House of Detention that some of his companions were going to turn informers. He has been in the army, and refuses to say whether he deserted or not. He expects to get a portion of the reward if the prisoners are convicted. The approver Vaughan also gave evidence. The trial will probably last through the week.

THE IRISH CHURCH.—A meeting of clergymen, Fellows of Sion College, City, was held yesterday in the hall of the college, for the purpose of considering Mr. Gladstone's resolutions on the Irish Church. The Rev. W. Rogers, the rector of Bishopsgate, presided. A three hours' discussion took place. The following resolution was moved:—

That an humble address be presented to her Majesty, praying that the revenues of the Irish Established Church may be retained for spiritual uses, and that her Majesty will be pleased to exercise her patronage as heretofore, until Parliament has sanctioned a bill providing for the satisfactory appropriation of the above revenues.

An amendment to petition the Queen and Parliament not to sanction the disestablishment of the Irish Church was carried by a large majority.

#### MARK-LANE.—THIS DAY.

There were only moderate supplies of wheat fresh up from Essex and Kent, both coastwise and by rail, to this morning's market, and the quality and condition of the samples was generally inferior. The demand for both red and white parcels ruled very inactive, but in all sales concluded the extreme rates of Monday last were realised. The show of foreign wheat was extensive, but millers operated with great caution, and only a few transactions were reported. Nevertheless, previous currencies were firmly supported. Fine malting barley continued very steady in price, but grinding and distilling qualities were in little request.



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## TO CORRESPONDENTS.

"G. Hall," Hinckley.—An account of the ceremony in question appeared in our columns a fortnight ago.

"Wm. Allen."—Unavoidably postponed.

# The Nonconformist.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 22, 1868.

## SUMMARY.

THE reception of the Prince and Princess of Wales in Ireland has exceeded in hearty enthusiasm all previous expectations. These loyal demonstrations were greatly assisted by the brilliant weather of last week, without which the imposing scene on the entrance of the royal couple into Dublin would have been marred, and the great gathering at Punchestown an impossibility. It was emphatically a popular reception. The great magnates of Ireland contributed nothing to the success beyond their presence at the installation ceremony at St. Patrick's Cathedral, and at the entertainments got up at the cost of the Viceroy and the middle classes of Dublin. Though the Prince and Princess went about without escort, and in some of the lowest districts of Dublin, not a discordant voice has been heard. The warm hearts of the Irish people have been captivated by the confidence reposed in them, and the way has been opened for a closer and more abiding connection between the royal family and the Queen's subjects across the Channel. It must be highly gratifying to the Prince to have had an opportunity of being of real service to the State of which he will be the future head, and the amiable Princess has been amply rewarded for the sacrifices she has made in undertaking such a journey at the present time. The hearty loyalty of the population of Dublin is echoed in all the provincial newspapers, and the way has now been effectually opened for Parliament to complete by wise and thorough legislation the reconciliation so auspiciously commenced.

In carrying back our thoughts to the Clerkenwell outrage, we seem to be in the midst of a distant era, so rapid and gratifying has been the course of events during the last few months. The whole story of that unprecedented crime is being reproduced before the Lord Chief Justice of England at the Central Criminal Court, where the eight Fenians, who have been several months in custody, are being tried. It would seem from the opening statement of the Attorney-General that some of the persons implicated in this atrocity have escaped the country, and that an attempt will be made to prove that the explosion at the House of Detention was the direct suggestion of Burke himself. These wretched men appear still to have sympathisers outside the prison walls. Last night two Irish-Americans were arrested in the neighbourhood of Buckingham Palace. Upon one of them was found a basket containing several tin cases of Greek fire, which is supposed to have been intended for incendiary purposes.

The Fenian trials at the Old Bailey no doubt had a sensible effect upon the division in the House of Commons last night on Mr. Gilpin's motion for the abolition of capital punishment. Out of 150 members present, the hon. member for Northampton obtained only 23 votes in favour of his amendment. Though Mr. Gilpin presented his case with great point and cogency, and brought forward a number of remarkable cases to show that many innocent persons had been executed, the House was listless, and indisposed to accept his conclusions. The supporters of the death penalty found a powerful and unexpected cham-

pion in Mr. J. S. Mill. Had it been in his power, Mr. Gilpin would probably have preferred to choose his own time and opportunity for ventilating the subject. But the Home Secretary's Bill for the restriction of capital punishment within prison walls went into Committee last night, and left him without any choice. This measure is undoubtedly a step in advance, and will put an end for the future to the scandal of public executions.

A pacific speech made at a local meeting in France by M. Baroche, one of the Imperial Ministers, in which he urged that the heavy expenditure about to be incurred for the formation of parochial roads in the departments was a substantial guarantee that Napoleon III. was not meditating war, has reassured the French people. It is now said that the late disquieting rumours were spread abroad to facilitate the passing of the estimates through the Legislative Body, and increase the popularity of the recent armaments.

The impeachment trial at Washington is making great progress. The evidence for the defence closed on Monday, and to-day the managers of the prosecution will reply. There seems to be little doubt that President Johnson will be found guilty and removed from office before the close of the present month. Meanwhile the House of Representatives have employed their leisure time by passing, at the suggestion of Mr. Banks, a stringent measure relative to naturalised immigrants. It enacts that all naturalised citizens of the United States, while in foreign countries, shall be entitled to the same protection as is now accorded to native-born citizens; that any decision of United States' courts contrary to that principle shall be declared null and void; and that if foreign Governments should refuse assent to this enactment, reprisals shall be taken. The passing of this Bill by the House is of little consequence so long as it has not received the assent of the Senate, and can only be regarded as an electioneering device. Though apparently aimed against this country, Congress can hardly pass a measure relative to naturalisation at variance with the provisions of the treaty lately concluded with the North German Confederation.

The news from the Abyssinian expedition comes down to the 1st inst., when Sir Robert Napier, with the advanced brigade, had advanced to the banks of the Jidda river, only thirty miles from Magdala, where he was waiting awhile to concentrate his forces. The route he has taken has apparently for its object to cut off the retreat of King Theodore upon Debra Tabor. That Sovereign had released Mr. Rassam from his chains, and appeared at length to have a wholesome dread of his pursuers, who have surmounted the difficulties of the country more quickly than he had expected. The expedition has had to cross mountains more than ten thousand feet in height, and to carry with them "elephant batteries" adequate to the reduction of Magdala, should the king throw himself into that stronghold and resolve to stand a siege. Whether he has met Sir Robert Napier in the field, withdrawn into Magdala, or surrendered his captives without resistance, will probably be known in England in the course of another week.

## THE REASSEMBLING OF PARLIAMENT.

THE Easter holidays are over—the House of Commons resumed business on Monday night—and the beaten Ministry once more occupied the benches which it is no exaggeration to say are theirs by usurpation. The reader will, doubtless, recal to his recollection that the last acts which the House did before separating for the recess, were the rejection by a majority of sixty of an amendment moved by Lord Stanley on the part of Her Majesty's Government for the purpose of evading a decision on a motion previously submitted by Mr. Gladstone, and the adoption by a majority of fifty-six of that right hon. gentleman's motion for the House to go into a Committee on the Acts relating to the Temporalities of the Irish Church. It was a double rejection of the advice of the Cabinet on a matter of high imperial policy. Had the House met on the Monday following that Saturday morning's vote, is it possible to imagine that routine business would have been proceeded with as though nothing whatever had happened calling for explanation? So far as our memory serves, no division of equal importance by which the Ministry has been placed in a minority has occurred, respecting which the First Lord of the Treasury did not feel it to be a duty owing to his own self-respect and to the respect due to both Houses of Parliament, to avail himself of the earliest opportunity of stating what would

be the effect of the adverse vote on his relations to the Legislature, and what steps he thereupon proposed to take. Mr. Disraeli, however, is a rule to himself. Constitutional precedent has no force for him, except when it serves to fortify his position. So the House went through the allotted business of Monday without a single word on the subject of the anomalous situation of the Government. The Premier was there, but he did not deign to open his lips. Mr. Gladstone was not there, and none of his supporters presumed in his absence to put a question to the beaten Government. There was a Cabinet Council held yesterday. May we not indulge a hope that Her Majesty's responsible advisers will have come to the decision to acquiesce in the strongly expressed will of the House of Commons, so far at least as to offer no further opposition to Mr. Gladstone's resolutions, or to the provisional legislation necessary to take them out of the sphere of "abstractions," and so, adjourning the contest until after the approaching General Election, proceed with as little interruption as may be to pass those measures of Parliamentary Reform by which the organic changes left incomplete last Session may be carried into effect at once?

If anybody but Mr. Disraeli were at the head of affairs this, probably, would be confidently expected by a vast majority of the public. Of him, in the official position he has recently conquered, it really is not safe to predict anything reasonable. We say this in no party spirit. We say it soberly, and with a sense of humiliation. We can hardly imagine any course more unbecoming a First Minister of the Crown, or more unlikely to commend itself to a man of sense, of spirit, or of patriotism, than that which Mr. Disraeli has deemed it not beneath him to pursue since he was honoured with the Queen's commands to form an Administration. Nothing could be worse than his Dartmouth letter, unless it were the concluding sentences of his speech on the Irish Church debate. Nothing could exhibit a more hopeless loss of self-restraint than those sentences, unless it were the attempt to justify them in the Baker letter. It is plain that with all his intellectual activity, and all his passion and aptitude for dexterous management, Mr. Disraeli knows next to nothing of the genius and temper of the people he assumes to govern, and that the little that he does know he is utterly unable to appreciate. If now, he should persist in using his vantage-ground as the leader of the House of Commons, and the chief adviser of the Crown, in opposing the determination of a large majority of the people's representatives—if he should not shrink from keeping afoot a bitter and protracted conflict, during which the proper business of the country must fall into dire confusion—if he, while he clings to office on the one hand, should, on the other, throw upon the Opposition all the responsibility of the mischiefs that may ensue from his obstinate self-assertion—does he really imagine that he will thereby win the sympathy of intelligent Englishmen, or that he will long be allowed to trample upon their patience with impunity? If he entertains any such idea, he will be convinced of his mistake before long. Effrontery may, indeed, do much—but when effrontery loses its effect, the recoil which it provokes is terribly indignant. Imposture may be borne with so long as it is not certainly known to be imposture, and nobody ventures to call it by that name—but if, after it has been generally recognised for what it is, it puts on saucy and pretentious airs, it had better look out, for its ignominious deposition is close at hand.

Mr. Gladstone is counselled to content himself with re-asserting his first resolution, and to withdraw his second and third. Why should he? He represents in the House of Commons the will of an unprecedented, and, on this question, a united majority of members, and he represents a predominant and unusually enthusiastic public opinion out of doors? Why should he be called upon to defer to the opposition of a minority? He will not, thereby, it is said, lose the prestige of victory, and he will greatly facilitate the progress of the nation's most urgent affairs. Well, but why should not that temporary surrender be made by the minority, who, in fact, by their retention of office, incur the responsibility of guiding the business of the Legislature? No one calls upon the Government to resign. No one expects them to give a final assent to the decision of the present House of Commons. They are not required to renounce any principle—they are not pressed to adopt any conclusive policy. All that is demanded of them is, that being overruled by the authority of Parliament, they should assist in putting the question of the Irish Church upon a footing which will convince the Irish people that it has been taken up with a view to legislative settlement, and which will leave the final verdict in the



hands of the newly-created or enlarged constituencies. If Mr. Disraeli cannot consent to that, he should resign. He is not merely suspending the issue—all parties acknowledge the propriety of that—but he is using official influence which is his by sufferance only, to prejudice it, and, as it were, present it to the country in a false light. For it is not as a question of political parties, but as an honest attempt to do justice, that the matter should go before the country for its decision, and the Minister who uses a minority to prevent the submitting of the question in that shape, is guilty "without extenuating circumstances" of the Parliamentary crime of faction.

Mr. Disraeli's dead silence at the reassembling of the Commons on Monday night, and Mr. Gladstone's absence, may possibly have a connection the one with the other, which for the present it might be inconvenient to explain. It may be that the Premier is not indisposed to bow to the necessity of his position, that he would make the attempt at yesterday's Cabinet Council to carry his colleagues along with him, and that the Liberal leader had got some intimation that his non-appearance in the House on Monday might conduce to a satisfactory conclusion on Tuesday. We have no other information on which to ground this conjecture than that which is before the public. The silence of Mr. Disraeli and the absence of Mr. Gladstone strike us an odd coincidence, and as not at all unlikely to have a yet unpublished significance. We shall see. Should Mr. Disraeli acquiesce in Mr. Gladstone's resolutions, of course he will be left undisturbed in office until after the meeting of the Reformed House of Commons—and should Mr. Gladstone have consented to leave him undisturbed, it would, of course, be with the understanding that neither his resolutions nor his Bill would meet with opposition on the part of the Government. The arrangement would be a convenient one for all parties, as it certainly would for the nation. But why do we speculate? To-morrow may perhaps show that even we have augured too favourably of Mr. Disraeli's prudence, and may disperse all our speculations to the winds.

#### THE ROYAL VISIT TO IRELAND.

We cannot resist the force of the evidence which daily comes before us that the visit of the Prince and Princess of Wales to Ireland is really doing good. What might have been its effect if, instead of following, it had preceded the recent debates and the reassuring division of the House of Commons on the Irish Church Establishment, we are happily not called upon to pronounce. As a matter of fact, the attempt to do political justice went first—the attempt to show courtesy came afterwards. Sullenness of temper, the effect of despondency, was removed by the one—grateful and pleasurable emotions were excited by the other. The clouds gave way in time, and sunshine glinted through them. The attitude of the Irish people towards England has certainly undergone a gratifying change. The Legislature made the first good impression—Royalty has immensely deepened it. Together, the two agencies have rekindled hope—and where hope is not extinct justice may be regarded as having the power of reconciliation in its hands.

How strangely, yet how never-faillingly true it is, that a touch of self-sacrifice succeeds in winning confidence when nothing else can. It is doubtful whether if the Prince of Wales had gone to Ireland alone he would have met with any very enthusiastic reception. There were difficulties in the way of his taking the Princess with him—there might be some risk—but the difficulties were surmounted and the risk was braved. This was enough for Pat. He is a generous creature, quick in his sensibilities, warm in his sympathies, affectionate and confiding when his affection and confidence are suitably appealed to. Besides, he is by nature loyal. The sentiment is strong in all the Celtic race. It was enough for Pat to become aware that the goodwill of Royalty had made an effort to show him that he was not forsaken. That he has been neglected—well, confession is the first step towards amendment. Irishmen have begun to see that we are ingenuously penitent for the evil things which we have done, and for the right things which we have omitted to do. They once more take us at our word—they credit our sincerity as, perhaps, they have never done before. The moody brow relaxes. The light of joy glistens in the tearful eye. Dark suspicions haste away—and, for a moment at least, heart touches heart. One cannot help reflecting, as he watches this marvellous change, "Surely this people ought to be an easy one to govern."

Let us not be mistaken. Assuredly Ireland is not to be safely put off with gewgaws. We

must beware of drawing our inferences too hastily or too broadly from what is going on at Dublin. The public entrance of the royal guests into the "Queen of cities," the ball at the Mansion House, the visit to PuncHESTOWN races, the installation of the Prince as a Knight of St. Patrick in the lately renovated cathedral, the military review in Phoenix-park, the drive without escort through the public thoroughfares, the Prince's affability, the Princess's loveliness both of person and manner, the excitement of sight-seeing, and all the effervescence of spirit occasioned by the presence of "the future king and queen" of the United Kingdom, will not do more than make Irishmen momentarily oblivious of the disadvantages of their position. They are useful—but only useful in breaking in upon a dreary monotony of discontent, and giving an opportunity for trying a really remedial policy. Ireland's chief grievance is said to be a sentimental one—and, unquestionably, Ireland's disaffection must be first struck in the region of sentiment. We must woo her trust, and when we get that, an even policy of justice will suffice to retain it. By altering her status we effect an instant revolution in her feelings. When she feels compelled to look upon herself, because convinced that Great Britain looks upon her, as a sister, and not a foster-child, as a member of the family and not a pensioned alien, she will be as easy to please as Scotland ever was. Now, the visit of the Prince and Princess, following immediately upon the initiation of a policy of justice, and by a visible sacrifice of long-cherished prejudices, seems to have touched the heart of the Irish people. It is for us to turn that great advantage to account.

Parliament, we feel persuaded, will only express the fixed determination of the people on this side of St. George's Channel in taking assiduous care that the people on the other shall not be permanently sacrificed to English prejudices, nor to English interests. But with the substance of justice there should go the grace of favour. Our Royal family should in future be more conspicuously than they have yet been *their* Royal family. The throne should be more closely identified with the social privileges of the Irish, and whatever benefit the presence of Royalty can confer upon a people must hereafter be conferred in due proportion upon Ireland. Occasional, must be exchanged for periodical, visits—and wealth and fashion as well as law and justice must be guided in their turn to the Emerald Isle. A hopeful beginning has been made—an eminently successful experiment. Let us hope that it will not again be followed by a long interval of cold neglect, and that hereafter the warm-hearted and imaginative Irish people may grow familiar with the smiles of Royalty.

#### THE PENDING ELECTIONS AND THE APPEAL TO THE COUNTRY.

THE elevation to the peerage of certain Tory members of the House of Commons, whose claims to that distinction are only to be found in their social position and faithful adherence to party, has created vacancies for South Lincolnshire and East Kent. Elections will also shortly take place at Stamford for the seat vacated by Lord Cranborne, now the Marquis of Salisbury; at Bristol, in consequence of the expected retirement of Sir Morton Peto; and at Grantham by the resignation of Mr. Welby. Three of these seats only are likely to be contested, and in each case the battle will be fought on the Irish Church question. Probably, at any other time, the small borough of Grantham would be left in the hands of the Tory landlords of the district. But the Liberals of that town have plucked up courage, and local enthusiasm on behalf of their candidate, Captain Cholmeley, has been so strongly aroused, that he may hope to run his opponent close, if not to secure the victory. At Bristol, Mr. Samuel Morley receives the cordial support of the united Liberal party. Though late in the field, and opposed by a gentleman of great local influence, Mr. Morley is carrying everything before him with a rush. His advanced ecclesiastical views are now in fashion, and will prove a substantial help instead of a hindrance to his election. In a fortnight at latest Mr. Morley is almost sure to resume his position as a member of the present Parliament, and will perhaps take his seat in time to aid Mr. Gladstone with his influence and vote in the debate on the Irish Church resolutions.

If the present Premier had foreseen the present drift of opinion, he would no doubt have hesitated to risk a Conservative seat in East Kent by elevating Sir Brooke Brydges to the House of Peers. The freeholders of that district are supposed to be strong in their Protestant sympathies, but there are no signs of

ardour in their support of Mr. Leigh Pemberton, the Tory candidate. They appear to be somewhat bewildered by the ambiguous policy of the Government, and paralysed by the discordant declarations of Mr. Hardy and Lord Stanley. Barham Downs has been the scene of many a Protestant demonstration; but when the electors of East Kent have the issue plainly put before them in the felicitous language of Sir Edward Dering—"Are you in favour of Mr. Disraeli's scheme for raising the Roman Catholic Establishment in Ireland, and perpetuating Maynooth at the expense of the British taxpayer, or do you agree with Mr. Gladstone that in Ireland every creed and every religion should stand or fall by its own merits?"—they may naturally be excused some hesitation. It is no use for high Protestants to fight a strenuous battle for the Irish Church if they are to be next year betrayed by their nominal leaders. The Liberal candidate, Mr. Tufton, though not perhaps the best man to fight such a contest, gains ground daily, and if East Kent, spite of combined clerical and landlord influence, should next week decide in favour of Mr. Gladstone's Irish policy, it will be an omen of the future by which even Mr. Disraeli will be disturbed.

That Minister's ingenious but short-sighted tactics have woven a web of difficulties for his party at the general election which his sagacity as a political novelist had not foreseen. Mr. Disraeli has bereft himself of a "cry," except such as is not germane to the present situation, or to his own well-known intentions as the head of the Government. The Conservatism of the country cannot be aroused by skilful devices, or the slanders of partisan journals, and public feeling is reaching an elevation where it will be little affected even by the long purse of the Carlton Club. Strong in their united action, in confidence, in a trusted leader, and in a definite principle around which to rally, the Liberal party will go before the new constituencies with the certainty that strenuous and continued effort will meet with adequate success. There are already signs that at the coming conflict the relations between candidates and electors will be placed on a higher and more legitimate footing, and that in place of local nobodies and persons who seek to enter Parliament as "commercial representatives"—whatever that may mean—the House of Commons will be reinforced by men of political mark, earnest convictions, and definite views.

All honour to Mr. Thomas Hughes, who has courageously come forward to vindicate his position in relation to the constituency he has so well and ably served! The member for Lambeth, threatened with opposition, throws himself on the good feeling and independence of his constituents. At a meeting of his committee held a few days ago, he candidly stated that he was not prepared to pay black mail for the honour of again representing them. He does not see why, in order that he may serve that borough in Parliament, he should expend large sums of money, and steadfastly sets his face against such intolerable exactions.

He would not (he said) employ any paid agent whatever, or hire any room except one central one, at which, just before the election, his brother or some volunteer friend would always be present, and where he could be always communicated with. For the rest, he would trust entirely to public meetings, which he would hold in those weeks in every part of the borough, with their help. This was his idea of the right way to manage the election. He believed that the ordinary methods of paid canvassers, bill-sticking, committee-rooms, and staffs of clerks at public-houses, were pure superstition, and that the great body of the voters knew quite well who they wished to have as their member, and would be influenced by no such clap trap. If he was wrong, and if they failed, they would do far more good in their failure than by winning through the ordinary methods.

This bold decision will, we doubt not, meet with a fitting response. Mr. Hughes has had the moral courage to denounce the slavery of candidates and electors alike, which on the one hand shuts out from our large constituencies all but men of wealth, and on the other exercises a corrupting influence. This example of independence is peculiarly well timed when household suffrage is about being brought into action; and if generally followed, will more effectually purify our representative system than the most stringent legislation against bribery. Not many members can afford to speak out with the plainness of the hon. member for Lambeth, but if the electors of our large towns will support his views, the "superstition" he denounces will ere long vanish from our electoral customs.

Though we are yet many months off the appeal to the country under the new Reform Act, preliminary preparations are already being made for next year's struggle; and we are glad to observe symptoms that the rank and file of the Liberal party will be greatly improved. An earnest leader like Mr. Gladstone will need



zealous and faithful followers—men of clear views and promising antecedents. The time has gone by for the election of candidates on vague professions of Liberalism which are a mask for political ignorance or self-seeking. It may be that under the new régime elections will become more costly than ever, and the long purse stand more chance than the vigorous intellect or political worth. All the more will it be necessary for constituents to act for themselves, and seek out candidates in whom they can implicitly confide, rather than listen to the blandishments of political adventurers. These thoughts have been suggested by a perusal of the address of Mr. C. S. Roundell to the electors of Clitheroe—a document which felicitously describes the cardinal features of the new Liberal creed, and marks the exact relation of the writer to the great questions of the day, and to the statesman who leads the Liberal party. Mr. Roundell is a fine type of that increasing class of cultivated Churchmen who heartily co-operate with Nonconformists in the struggle for religious equality and the abolition of University tests. And it is such men who will give tone and strength to the Liberal party in Parliament. Any one who reads Mr. Roundell's address, which reflects what are now the current views of all who sit behind Mr. Gladstone, and is a terse programme of their policy, may estimate the advance we have made by comparing with it the effusions of candidates at the last general election. However it may have been in the Palmerstonian era, the country will need in the next Parliament, not men who have made a fortune, and proved to be local benefactors, but thoughtful and well-trained politicians like Mr. Roundell, who are competent to deal with the great problems of the future, and well versed in the principles of constitutional government.

#### THE ROYAL VISIT TO IRELAND.

The Prince and Princess of Wales crossed from Holyhead to Dublin early on Wednesday morning, escorted by the Channel fleet, consisting of the Minotaur, the Warrior, the Achilles, and the Defence. The Victoria and Albert entered the harbour at nine o'clock, whereupon yards were manned and the salute was fired. The Royal party had a beautiful passage—the sea like glass. A light land breeze arose just as the long-expected yacht entered the harbour, where she anchored. The fleet lay in the offing. The Kingstown Commissioners went on board the royal yacht directly, and presented an address to their Royal Highnesses. At half-past eleven o'clock the Victoria and Albert weighed anchor, and paddled toward the quay, and at twelve o'clock was moored safely alongside. The Lord-Lieutenant, with the Marchioness of Abercorn and the staff, Lord Straithairn, and the Lord Chancellor of Ireland, were in waiting to receive the royal party. A guard of honour of Grenadier Guards was drawn up on the spot where the disembarkation was to take place.

As their Royal Highnesses set foot upon the Irish shore a royal salute thundered forth; the yards were manned; the band of the Grenadiers, which had been playing the "Danish March" and "St. Patrick's Day in the Morning," struck up "God save the Queen"; and there was a burst of the most cordial cheering from the brilliant crowd assembled near. The weather was magnificent. The Lord-Lieutenant, as representative of her Majesty the Queen, entered the first of the carriages, and headed the procession. The Prince and the Princess of Wales, with the Duke of Cambridge and the Prince of Teck, occupied a barouche which followed the carriage of the Lord-Lieutenant. The Princess looked remarkably well. Her Royal Highness was dressed in a puce-coloured tabinet dress, and wore a white bonnet adorned with pink roses. The royal cortège, preceded by a troop of Lancers, began to move at half-past twelve. The barouche in which the Prince and the Princess of Wales rode was escorted by a troop of the 10th Royal Hussars, the Prince's own regiment. The whole of the course, from Kingstown to the city, a distance of seven miles, was more or less lined with spectators; the houses were decked with flags, among which the Danish colours were conspicuous. Stands were erected at turns of the road. Garlands and complimentary inscriptions were displayed everywhere. Great numbers of cars and private carriages went out from the city to meet the procession. Neither military nor mounted police were employed to keep the road, but throughout the whole distance the crowd maintained the most perfect order, and received the Prince and the Princess with great cordiality. The whole way from Merrion-square to the Castle was occupied by a dense crowd.

The Lord Mayor and the Corporation of Dublin met the procession at Baginbun-street, and thence followed it to the Castle, which was reached by the Royal party at two o'clock. The Lord Mayor and Corporation presented an address in which they congratulated the Prince of Wales on his becoming a Knight of St. Patrick, and on his intention to unveil the statue of Edmund Burke. They moreover expressed a hope that her Majesty the Queen would command a suitable residence to be prepared for her in Ireland, and would dwell there among her subjects. The Princess was separately addressed, as having by her deeds of charity and kindness, as well

in the country of her birth as in England, justified the enthusiastic welcomes which greeted her when she first landed on our shores. To this the Prince replied as follows:—

My Lord Mayor, Aldermen, and Burgesses of the City of Dublin: It is with the greatest satisfaction that I have received your address of welcome to your ancient and loyal city. The reception which the Princess and myself have this day experienced calls forth our liveliest feelings and most heartfelt acknowledgments. It has been my most anxious desire since I last visited Ireland to return to it, accompanied by the Princess; and I regard her presence this day, equally with yourselves, as a happy omen for the country, although I have never for a moment doubted your constant and devoted attachment to the throne of her Most Gracious Majesty the Queen. It will be a great source of pleasure to me to be present at the inauguration of the statue of one of Ireland's most distinguished statesmen, and to be enrolled and installed as a Knight of the most illustrious Order of St. Patrick. In the name of the Princess and myself, I return you once more our hearty thanks.

The members of the Corporation were then presented to their Royal Highnesses. After the Prince and Princess of Wales had partaken of luncheon, they were driven through Phoenix Park, accompanied by the Lord-Lieutenant and the Marchioness of Abercorn, to the Viceregal Lodge. The illuminations in the evening were general throughout the city, and the ships on the river were decked with coloured lights. The streets were crowded by sight-seers, who dispersed rapidly so soon as the illuminations were extinguished. The most perfect order prevailed.

On Thursday—the weather being all that could be desired—the Royal party went to Punchestown racecourse to witness a steeple-chase. In the morning, whilst the band was playing in the Castle-yard, the Prince and Princess appeared on the balcony, and bowed repeatedly to the people who were gathered below, and who cheered them in the most enthusiastic manner. At half-past twelve the Royal party left Kingsbridge-station by special train for Sallins. From Sallins they drove to Punchestown in four open carriages, each carriage being drawn by four horses, without military escort. They reached the grand stand at 2.20. There was an immense concourse of people in carriages and on foot awaiting their arrival. There were also immense numbers on the ground—the total number being estimated at 50,000. The reception was enthusiastic. The cheering continued on every side till long after the Royal party had taken their seats in the pavilion next to the grand stand. The Princess wore a green Irish poplin dress, and looked extremely well. Her Royal Highness stood the whole time of the race for the Prince of Wales's Stakes. The Prince of Wales took a lively interest in the proceedings. The weather was brilliantly fine, and almost sultry. The racing commenced at half-past two and ended at half-past five. No serious accident occurred, although the racecourse was obstructed by the crowd pressing in front of the grand stand to see the Prince and Princess. The numbers exceeded those at any previous gathering here. The Royal party left the course at a quarter to six for Sallins, and left for Dublin by special train, to which the Royal carriages were attached. These carriages were the same as those used by the Queen on her last visit to Ireland. Dublin was reached at seven o'clock.

Writing on Thursday, the special correspondent of the *Times* says:—

That which was the enthusiastic reception of yesterday is dwarfed into nothingness by the reception of today. It may be as well to say here at once that all the people in the crowds which have assembled in Ireland since the Prince and Princess arrived do not display great warmth; but one of the best authorities—if not the very best, in such matters—declares that he has never witnessed in any part of Great Britain such universal loyalty and such genuine personal feeling towards the Prince and Princess as he has seen over here. He is a man accustomed to move in crowds, and observe the demeanour of the people, and his conviction is that never on any occasion has the exhibition of real loyal attachment to the person of Royalty represented *pro hoc vice* by the Heir Apparent been more wide or general or genuine. An eminent Irish Judge, who has had unhappy experience in consequence of the disturbances of last year, declared that he saw a mass of "sympathisers" surrounding the Royal carriage, cheering the Prince and Princess, and, whether he be mistaken or not, it is certainly true that "the multitude" have given the royal couple a reception which altogether belied the frequent assertion that the affections of the Irish people are alienated from the Royal House and the Throne. The Irish, whatever else may be said of them, have never been accused of hypocrisy. When the Prince of Wales drove out yesterday through the streets without an escort, he was followed by a crowd which somewhat exceeded the bounds of courtier-like respect, but never said or did aught which could prove offensive to the most austere of Princes, and whose demonstrations were taken as they were meant by one of the most genial and generous. He went without escort or followers, and he had his reward in the joyous recognition by the people of the confidence he reposed in them.

When the royal couple appeared in front of the grand stand at Punchestown racecourse, the enthusiasm was at its height—

When the Prince and Princess presented themselves in their places to the multitude a waving of hats and handkerchiefs and a roar of many voices expressed the delight and loyalty of the mass which thronged the course. Again and again the cheers burst forth. There was no mistake about the success of the test now. A change of attitude, a glance—the slightest movement of the royal pair seemed to produce a fresh outburst, in which, indeed, all did not always take part, though they were never tired of gazing. "Isn't it grand, my boy? Isn't the Prince illigant? And was there ever such a Princess out of a fairy tale?" One bitter thing, for there are bitters now and then—good for the constitu-

tion perhaps over here—*surgit amari aliquid*—was said by one man to whom his neighbour was dilating on the good results of the Prince's bearing. "Yes, indeed! But wasn't it a pity that it took well nigh a rebellion to bring him over to us?"

It is stated that there was very little drunkenness at Punchestown on Thursday. The crowds were well conducted, and the stranger saw no evidence of poverty among the country people. They had come from fully five counties to the centre point of attraction, and evinced the greatest eagerness to see the Princess.

On Friday the Prince, accompanied by the Duke of Cambridge and the Prince of Teck, paid another visit to Punchestown, and rode about the course on horseback, the crowd not being so dense. The Prince was received, as before, with the greatest cordiality. The Princess remained at the Castle during the morning, and in the afternoon drove down Dame-street in an open carriage, with royal outriders, and passed through College-green, Nassau-street, and Stephen's-green, to Earlsfort-terrace, opposite the Exhibition-building, to visit the Alexandra College, lately established in Dublin, under the patronage of the Princess herself, to supply a superior education for ladies. As the royal carriage approached, the Princess had literally a floral shower cast upon her, and was presented with a beautiful bouquet by one of the pupils, while the Archbishop of Dublin, who is visitor of the College, handed a congratulatory address to her Royal Highness. In the evening there was a brilliant ball at the Mansion-house. The Prince and Princess arrived at eleven o'clock, and were very enthusiastically cheered on their way through the streets. Their Royal Highnesses were most warmly greeted, both on entering and on retiring from the ballroom. The Princess wore a dress of pink satin and flounce of rich Irish lace, presented to her by the ladies of Ireland. The ball was opened by the Prince of Wales with the Lady Mayoress and the Princess with the Lord Mayor. Prince Teck, who wore the blue uniform of an Austrian officer of Hussars, danced with the Marchioness of Abercorn, and the Lord-Lieutenant with the Marchioness of Carmarthen. Supper was served at one o'clock. The company numbered twelve hundred.

The installation of the Prince of Wales as a Knight of the Order of St. Patrick took place on Saturday with great pomp at St. Patrick's Cathedral. The procession from the Castle started about three o'clock. All the gay festoons and brilliant flags which were displayed on Wednesday decorated the streets, and in some instances were retouched and rendered more attractive. Innumerable balconies were elaborately embellished with evergreens and flowers; all were filled with spectators, arrayed in all the brilliant colours of the loom. Every window was crowded, and the roofs of the houses in commanding places were fringed with double lines of people who were content to view the spectacle from that dizzy height. The multitude who could not find accommodation within the houses along the route thronged the footways and extended to the depth of many files towards the centre of the thoroughfares, until stopped by the military who kept the route. The procession consisted of ten carriages and a detachment of Lancers. It need hardly be said that the Prince and the Princess of Wales were loudly and cordially cheered along the entire route; even in the neighbourhood of the Cathedral, which stands in one of the worst parts of Dublin, they were received with the utmost respect. The ladies occupying the windows and platforms waved a loyal welcome. Her Royal Highness returned the friendly salutations of the multitude with a kindly and unaffected grace. Inside the Cathedral, all who had tickets were in their places at two o'clock. The place will not hold more than 3,000 persons, and there were at least 10,000 applicants for admission. St. Patrick's Cathedral, as is well-known, has been restored mainly at the cost of Sir B. L. Guinness, who has spent some 150,000*l.* upon it. It is, says the *Times* correspondent, "a fine edifice, but, inside and out, in spite of noble proportions and great size, it has a certain resemblance to the more ambitious efforts of the Neo-Medievalists to create an ancient cathedral in 1868." The *coup d'œil* before the entrance of the Royal party is thus described:—

The effect was exceedingly fine—for just what was wanting to relieve the coldness of the gray walls was lent by a brilliant crowd which glittered with lace and bright colours, with gold and silver and many-bued silks. The view down the aisle from the great west porch was singularly fine. The spectators are in their places, and on each side of the scarlet cloth which tapers away to a mere riband in the distance of the choir there was a broad belt of women in their best, at a time "when the spring fashions are in" and on a day when the sun shone, and gave an insurance against treacherous rainfall, and of men the highest in the land, in all the splendour of official, military, judicial, or State uniform; for the plain black coat which the Americans declare the new nation which is to conquer the world must wear was not in vogue. It was a long strip of brilliant flowers bordering a scarlet walk below the gray wall. Looking straight down as well as might be through the shifting colour, the eye was arrested rather abruptly by two scarlet platforms on each side of the aisle below the transept. These were filled with white-robed choristers and gaily-dressed ladies, who would be angry, perhaps, if they were called choristeresses; and up in the arches of the triforium were assembled still more of the singers who lent such a potent aid to the ceremonial. The effect would have been better still, perhaps, if circumstances had not obliged the directors to put them up so high, for the supreme efforts of the singers wandered aloft and were lost on the cold groins of the roof, though there was much snatched by those below which was very effective and beautiful. At the angle of the aisle with the transept on the left, looking towards the east, were placed the chairs of State of the Princess and of the wife of



the Lord-Lieutenant, the Marquis of Abercorn. Behind these were the chairs of the ladies of the Court, and then the transept to the left was filled by a crowd of illustrious personages. At the corresponding angle on the right were placed the judges, and as they looked to-day, in all the glory of full-bottomed wigs and ermine, the Irish judges could bear comparison before a physiological Paris in a contention for any number of golden apples—not for youth or beauty, perhaps, but for intelligent, astute, and dignified faces—with the members of any Bench. Beyond the transept on each side and under the choir balconies were the stalls of the knights, with their helmets and banners overhead, and then beyond the screen could be caught a glimpse of the beautiful little chapel, with its mauve and blue colouring, and the light from its painted windows falling on many faces. Of course, there were late arrivals and false alarms, but on the whole there was no reason to complain—nay, much to be thankful for. In the seats on the left next the Princess's "throne chair" sat the Lord Chancellor of Ireland, Admiral Warden, Lord Strathnairn, Sir Hope Grant, Sir W. Knollys, &c. The principal Roman Catholic ecclesiastical present was the Rev. Dr. Russell, of Maynooth; for, although Cardinal Cullen could dine with a Protestant Lord-Lieutenant, he could not enter a Protestant Cathedral.

The procession was received by the Dean and Chapter and conducted to the Chapter-room into the Cathedral. The Princess of Wales, with the Marchioness of Abercorn, occupied a dais, the installed knights took their seats, and the Prince, who was to be installed, stood at his seat. After some formal proceedings a procession was formed from the chapter-room to the choir, where the knights, including the Prince, proceeded to their stalls. The insignia having been fetched by Ulster King of Arms, he delivered to the Grand Master (the Lord-Lieutenant) the collar of the Order. The Usher, the Genealogist, and the Secretary then went to the front of the Prince's stall, and conducted his Royal Highness to the table. The Grand Master commanding the two senior knights to descend from their stalls, his Royal Highness was by them girt with the sword and robed with the mantle. At each ceremony of the girdling with the sword and robing with the mantle the Prelate read the prescribed admonition. The Prince then advanced to the stall of the Grand Master, and his Excellency invested him with the collar, which being done the Prince was reconducted to his stall, making his reverence to the Grand Master, and standing with his hat on. Thereupon the Senior Esquire to his Royal Highness unfurled the Prince's banner, and "Ulster," with a flourish of trumpets, declared his Royal Highness's titles. At the conclusion of the proclamation all resumed their seats except the Officers of Arms and the Esquires; the principal Esquire presented the offering in a purse to the Registrar, and "Ulster" received the banner from the Esquire and delivered it to the Registrar, who deposited it within the rails, after which the Esquires and Officers of Arms, with due reverence, returned to their places, and a grand anthem was performed. At its conclusion "Ulster" made three reverences to the Grand Master and waved his sceptre, whereupon the procession, marshalled as on entering the Cathedral, moved down the middle aisle, the choir singing the Hallelujah Chorus, towards the great west entrance, whence the procession returned to the Castle by the South Close, Bishop-street, Augier-street, York-street, Stephen's-green, Grafton-street, College-green, Dame-street, and Cork-hill. The ceremonial terminated at five o'clock. The Prince was belted with the same sword sworn by George IV. All the knights were present except the following, prevented by illness and infirmity:—Lords Roden, Gough, Fingal, Londonderry, Wicklow, and Donegal.

In the evening his Excellency the Lord-Lieutenant entertained the Knights, the Royal visitors, and a select company numbering over 120 guests, in St. Patrick's Hall. All the Knights wore their mantles, and his Excellency displayed on his breast the badge of the Order. The banquet was given upon a scale of splendour befitting the occasion and the munificence of the Viceroy. The principal toast was of course "The Prince and Princess of Wales," which was drunk with enthusiasm. In returning thanks his royal highness said:—

Your Excellency, your Royal Highnesses, my Lords, Ladies, and Gentlemen,—In the name of the Princess of Wales and myself, I beg to tender you my warmest thanks for the very kind and flattering manner in which this toast has been proposed, and for the cordial way in which it has been received by the company present here this evening. Under any circumstances I should feel it a great honour to have my health proposed by his Excellency the Lord-Lieutenant, but to-night the circumstances under which it has been proposed are peculiar, for I appear here as a Knight of the Illustrious Order of St. Patrick. (Applause.) I can assure you that I feel very proud to wear this evening for the first time the star and riband of this illustrious Order; and I am very grateful to her Majesty the Queen for having given it to me. On former occasions I have received the Orders of Great Britain from her Majesty's own hands; and, although I cannot but regret that on this occasion she has not been able to give this Order to me herself, still it was the Queen's wish that I should receive it on Irish soil, from the hands of her representative, the Lord-Lieutenant. (Applause.) This Order was first founded, now more than eighty years ago, by my great-grandfather, King George III., and was instituted by him as a mark of his goodwill and friendship towards this country, and it is my hope that, as his great-grandson, having to-day received it on Irish soil, I may also be instrumental in evincing in this country, in the name of my sovereign and my mother, her goodwill and friendship towards Ireland. (Applause.) I feel also proud that I have been not only invested with the insignia of this Order, but installed in the magnificent Cathedral of St. Patrick, for the restoration of which we are indebted to the great munificence of a private

gentleman of Ireland, whose name is so well known that I need not mention it to you, more particularly as I have the pleasure of seeing him at this table. (Applause.) My Lords and Gentlemen, I am very glad to have this opportunity of stating to you, on behalf of the Princess and myself, how deeply gratified we are by the reception which has been accorded to us in this country, not only as the Lord-Lieutenant has observed, by the higher classes, but by the sons of the soil as well. (Applause.) After the sad time of the past year it might, perhaps, have been thought by some that our reception would not have been all that could have been wished. I myself felt confident that it would, and my hopes have been indeed realised. I beg, therefore, to offer, not only to those present who participated more immediately in our reception, but to the whole Irish people, our thanks for the cordial, hearty, and friendly welcome which we have received. (Applause.) I will not weary you with more words, but thank you once more for the honour you have done us in so heartily drinking our healths.

The Prince spoke with an unaffected earnestness which deepened the impression left by his words.

On Sunday the Prince and Princess attended Christ Church, which was of course greatly crowded. The Archbishop of Dublin was the preacher.

At night there was a gale of wind, and a heavy downpour of rain, which excited some uneasiness; but, as the day advanced, the weather was clear and the sun shone. On Monday afternoon there was a review of 6,000 troops in Phoenix Park. The reception of the Prince and Princess, both on arriving and leaving the park, was cordial, as was also that accorded to the Lord-Lieutenant and Marchioness of Abercorn. As the Prince rode off the ground the enthusiasm of the people became quite uncontrollable: they broke through the line of sentries, and crowded so closely round his horse, as for a short time entirely to stop his progress. On Monday night the Lord-Lieutenant gave a ball at the Castle, at which the Prince and Princess of Wales, the Duke of Cambridge, Prince Teck, and a large and brilliant assembly of the aristocracy and gentry of Ireland, were present.

The *Belfast News Letter* announces that the Prince of Wales will visit Belfast in September next, to open the new docks on the County Antrim side of the river.

#### MR. SAMUEL MORLEY AT BRISTOL.

On Thursday Mr. Samuel Morley, who is a candidate for the seat about to be rendered vacant by the resignation of Sir Morton Peto, visited Bristol, and met with a most enthusiastic reception. Several thousand working men, the local trade societies, and the members of the Bristol Operatives' Liberal Association, met Mr. Morley at the railway-station, and, accompanied by bands of music, escorted him to Colston's Hall, where a meeting, which was attended by between 5,000 and 6,000 working men, was held for the purpose of inaugurating the Operatives' Liberal Association. Mr. George Thomas presided. Mr. MORLEY, on presenting himself, after some introductory remarks, read a letter from the Hon. Mr. F. H. F. Berkeley, expressing regret that bad health would not allow him to accept the invitation of the Liberal working men of Bristol to be present at the meeting, and urging the working men of Bristol to stand by Mr. Gladstone and aid him to make the cause of liberality and justice triumphant. Mr. Morley then addressed the meeting at great length, warning them against putting trust in the liberal professions of the Conservative party. He urged them to vote for no Liberal who did not go in for the ballot. He thought the duration of Parliaments should be not more than three years, as there was danger in leaving it in the hands of a Minister to have the power of making a dissolution. He held with the prerogative being retained by the Crown in pressing circumstances; but the Minister was left to a very impure stimulus to acting when he could say to the members if they did not accept a particular measure he would dissolve the Parliament. He did not consider the redistribution of seats as settled, and nothing could be more unsatisfactory than that there were some men who were able to dictate to certain constituencies, without a word from them, who they should send to Parliament. After discussing various topics of public interest, Mr. Morley came to the question of the Irish Church. He was not disposed to underrate its solemn importance. He believed there were mighty issues depending upon the settlement of it. He knew of his own personal knowledge, as well as from the testimony of other friends, that there were some of the very best men to be found in the kingdom among the clergy of the Irish Church. They had made a fatal mistake; the question had been moved altogether out of Dissenting opinions by the passing of those resolutions in the House of Commons, drawn with all the honesty and distinctness which ever characterised Mr. Gladstone, and endorsed by 200 or 300 of the most conscientious clergymen of the kingdom, who represented the opinions of hundreds of thousands of Churchmen. He believed the Irish Church to be one of the greatest scandals in Christendom—to think that 610,000l. a-year had been received by really excellent men who must have been aware they did nothing for the money, was a state of things that should be stopped, for dealing with national property they should say it was a state of things that should not continue any longer. He believed the settlement of that question would bring peace and satisfaction to Ireland; but he held that was not the question they had to settle. The question was, was it just? Their strength in contending with Irish disaffection was that they should have nothing fairly to complain of, and as long as that Church system lasted, they had a

right to complain. A friend of his called upon a clergyman lately in Connaught, living luxuriously, while those around him were in beggary. He was glad that Mr. Gladstone had said, what they knew was a reality, he meant to follow the matter up. If he were sent to the House of Commons the resolutions of Mr. Gladstone would find on his part a hearty, earnest support. He contented himself further with saying that he was thankful for the organisation which they were about to inaugurate that evening, and he had been requested to move a resolution he would read to them. Mr. Morley then moved:—

That this meeting views with great satisfaction the formation of the Bristol Operatives' Liberal Association, and hereby congratulates them on the splendid inauguration of this evening.

Mr. C. J. THOMAS seconded the resolution, which was adopted unanimously. A resolution was also adopted in which the meeting accorded a vote of thanks to Sir S. M. Peto for the services he had rendered the city in Parliament.

On Friday a crowded meeting of the Liberal Association was held at Tailors' Hall, Mr. George Thomas presiding, when Mr. MORLEY again spoke at some length. He received quite an ovation, the whole meeting rising to their feet, waving their hats, and cheering vociferously. He touched upon the various public questions of the day, and said he would rather battle on with the Irish Church question than submit to a compromise, and protested against universal endowment. (Loud cheers.) The Dean of Westminster, one of the most earnest, genial, and intelligent men of the day, was suggesting such an alteration in the Established Church as would admit all persons of all conceivable opinions to come in as members of that Church. With all submission to the Dean, he would say that he did not see his way to accepting his proposal; but when men had to make such a proposition it showed the embarrassment they found themselves in. (Hear, hear.) The speaker expressed his earnest desire to see the coming contest a contest of principle. (Hear, hear.) No approach to personality would ever be heard from his lips. (Cheers.) He should take part in that contest with a feeling of sympathy for those who differed with him, not in a spirit of bitterness and antagonism, and less to aim at victory than to aim at truth. (Cheers.)

Some remarks were subsequently made on the importance of forming local committees and setting to work, and to a question relative to the desire of the people of Nottingham to bring him forward again, and whether, if returned, he would stick to Bristol.

Mr. MORLEY said he was in a position of great embarrassment with his Nottingham friends.

Those who would take the trouble to find out would find that there was great excitement there. They were earnestly bent on doing themselves justice as well as him. They felt themselves to be under a cloud as to what passed at the last election. (Hear.) Well, he did not feel at liberty to call in question the decision of the committee who unseated him, and on which three Liberals and two Conservatives sat, though he was not prepared to say that their decision was what he expected, or which he felt might under all the circumstances be arrived at. He was persuaded that they never gave full weight to the circumstances in which his friends were placed. He should be sorry to see inflicted on Bristol a similar state of things to which Nottingham was subjected for a month before the election, owing to the machinations and doings of men who acted a disreputable part to that town, by bringing out the worst passions of the worst classes of that town. (Hear.) His friends were led to guard against a state of things which required either police or the strong arm of men hired to do certain things, from sheer necessity. They got compromised, no doubt. Mr. Cosham knew the men; men as high and as upright as any to be found in Bristol. (Hear, hear, from Mr. Cosham.) There were mistakes made, but they were venial mistakes, mistakes which had passed current thousands of times, and been whitewashed over and over again by Parliamentary Committees; but they were taken into account with other conditions of the town at that time. (Hear, hear.) There was a feeling in Nottingham which was very strong, and to him it was an extremely painful one. He had, however, arrived at the conclusion that his close connection with Nottingham was a positive disqualification to his becoming a candidate (Hear, hear.) He had too much to do with Nottingham to be a candidate for that town, and his views as to local candidates had altogether altered. (Cheers.) His future connection with Bristol very much depended upon themselves (cheers); if they worked like men at the coming election they would do a great deal towards solving the question. (Loud cheers.)

Mr. GEORGE suggested the propriety of having so admirable a speech as that of Mr. Morley's printed and circulated.

Mr. E. S. ROBINSON considered the explanation given by Mr. Morley as to Nottingham was highly satisfactory, and he hoped that the manner in which they would return him would assure him that they were all thoroughly satisfied with his explanation as to Nottingham. (Cheers.)

Three cheers were given for Mr. Morley, for Mr. Thomas, and others, and the meeting terminated.

Sir Morton Peto has applied for the Chiltern Hundreds, and the election is expected to take place next week.

#### THE FENIAN TRIALS.

The trial of the six Fenian prisoners for murder in connection with the Clerkenwell explosion began on Monday at the Central Criminal Court, before the Lord Chief Justice and Mr. Baron Bramwell. Very excellent arrangements were made for the preservation of order, and no persons were admitted to the court except by tickets, and thus everyone who had any business to transact found ready access to the court. A considerable number of police, under the



direction of Inspector Duddy and Sergeant Wilden, were in attendance, and they rendered valuable assistance in preserving order. The prisoners are charged with the wilful murder of Anne Hodgkinson and five other persons. All pleaded not guilty in a firm voice. The Attorney-General, the Solicitor-General, Mr. Giffard, Q.C., Mr. Poland, and Mr. Archibald are counsel for the prosecution; Mr. Straight defends Timothy Desmond; Mr. Warner Sleigh, William Desmond; Mr. Baker Greene, Barret and English; Mr. Montagu Williams, O'Keefe and Ann Justice. It may be remembered that Allen, who had been one of the prisoners, was released, it having been shown that he was employed by the police. Also, that the bill against O'Neil, who was captured with Barret, was thrown out by the Grand Jury. Hardly had the proceedings commenced, before Mr. Williams and Mr. Greene applied for a postponement of the trial of their clients, on the ground that they (the counsel) had only been instructed on Saturday night. This was refused, but the Lord Chief Justice said that the evidence against the prisoners in question would be postponed until as late as possible. The prisoners were not allowed an opportunity of seeing the panel on account of an informality in their application.

The Attorney-General proceeded to open the case on behalf of the Crown amid breathless silence, and said he would state the very serious charge against the prisoners. He need scarcely repeat to them that the death of the woman of whose death the prisoners were accused was caused by the explosion at the House of Detention in Clerkenwell, in which the prisoners were alleged to have been concerned. He should prove that four of the prisoners were members of that absurd brotherhood called the Fenian Brotherhood, and it appeared that after the arrest of a person named Burke, who was connected with the Fenian conspiracy, arrangements were made for attempting his release. About this time the prisoner Barret came to London, and it would be shown that he frequented the house of a man named Mullany, in Sherwood-street. This house was likewise frequented by a person called Murphy, or "Captain" Murphy, and he held communication with a woman of the name of Barry, who was in the habit of visiting Burke, and it would appear that the plan of blowing down that portion of the wall enclosing the exercising ground of the House of Detention originated with Burke himself. The plan agreed upon beyond all doubt was this—that while Burke was exercising a barrel of gunpowder should be placed against the weakest part of the wall, that a signal should be made to Burke, and that in the confusion caused by the explosion he should make his escape. This was the arrangement made, and he should show that all the prisoners were implicated in it with the exception of Ann Justice, whose case was somewhat peculiar. To raise funds with which to carry out this scheme a meeting was held in a public-house at Holborn about the 2nd of December, and on the 4th of December a man called at Curtis and Harvey's, powder manufacturers, and a few days afterwards the same man, whose name was Felix Fallon, and who was not in custody, made a purchase of 200 pounds of gunpowder. The barrel of gunpowder was taken to Corporation-lane on Thursday, Dec. 12, and when placed in position a ball was thrown over the wall into the exercising grounds where the prisoner Burke was at the time, who was observed to leave the rank of prisoners, go to the further end of the yard, and do something with his shoe. The barrel attracted the attention of more than one person. For some reason or another the barrel could not be ignited, and it was ultimately rolled away. There was that night a consultation of most of the prisoners relative to the failure, and money was given them by Captain Murphy (who has escaped to America) to carry the thing out next day. After referring to the suspicious incidents affecting Ann Justice, who was seen with some of the prisoners and about the neighbourhood of the explosion on the Friday, the Attorney-General described the circumstances attending the catastrophe, and the finding of the ball intended for Burke among the debris, and mentioned the familiar fact of the warning received by the governor of the gaol and the consequent close confinement of all the prisoners on that afternoon. On that evening Barret went to Mullany's house with one ear bleeding and face blackened, shaved off his whiskers, and avowed that he fired the barrel. He went to Glasgow, where he was arrested, and has been recognised by several persons as one of those who were engaged in the outrage. English was afterwards seen by a witness who will be produced, and in reply to a remark made by the latter, to the effect that the explosion was a diabolical affair, English said, "We will blow up the whole of London before Christmas, and that will be more diabolical." Various circumstances were mentioned implicating the two Desmonds, and the appearance of Mullany as a witness for the Crown, and Barret seems to have come to London for the special purpose of taking an active part in the plot. William Desmond and English seem also to have been undoubtedly engaged in the affair. They were present on the Thursday and on the Friday, though possibly not actually engaged in the perpetration of the deed. It was a question how far Ann Justice was cognisant of the affair; but with regard to the other prisoners the Attorney-General thought that the case could be proved beyond all doubt.

After some formal evidence had been given, Patrick Mullany, one of the approvers, was examined by the Attorney-General. His evidence was an amplification of that given above, and of what has been previously published. He distinctly declared that Barret had told him he fired the barrel. His cross-

examination was deterred, after which the court adjourned.

## Parliamentary Intelligence.

### HOUSE OF COMMONS.

The House reassembled on Monday after the Easter recess.

Mr. Carington took the oaths and his seat for High Wycombe, in the room of his brother, Lord Carington. Mr. Lopes also took the oaths and his seat for Launceston, in the place of Mr. Campbell, resigned.

New writs were ordered for South Lincolnshire, in the room of Sir John Trollope, called to the Upper House as Baron Kesteven; for East Kent, in the room of Sir Brook W. Brydges, called to the Upper House as Baron Fitzwalter; for the county of Radnor, in the room of Sir John Walsh, called to the Upper House as Baron Ormathwaite; and for the borough of Leominster, in the room of Mr. A. Walsh, who has accepted the office of steward of the manor of Hempsden, in Yorkshire.

Mr. SMOLLETT raised a discussion as to the dealings of the Indian Government with the Madras Irrigation Company and the East India Irrigation and Canal Company. He criticised with much severity the practical results of the operations of those companies, and moved a resolution condemning as impolitic the system of supporting those private enterprises by enormous grants of public money drawn from the Indian Treasury. Sir S. NORTHGOTE, while admitting the general impolicy of a system of grants and guarantees, defended the action of the Government in these particular cases, as best calculated to promote important works of irrigation. Mr. KINNAIRD and Mr. J. B. SMITH made some remarks on the same subject, and in the end Mr. Smollett withdrew his motion.

Mr. WATKIN moved for a committee to inquire into the condition of Ceylon and the action of its government, basing his motion on the decay and depopulation of the colony, and on the injudicious system of taxation, of which he gave numerous proofs. The motion was resisted by Mr. ADDERLEY, who maintained that the only cause of complaint the colonists had was being compelled to bear a fair share of their military expenditure, and showed the inaccuracy of some of Mr. Watkin's statements as to the decay of the colony. Mr. Alderman LUSK and Mr. GOSWORTHY supported the motion, and after some observations from Mr. CHILDERS it was negatived without a division.

Subsequently the House spent some hours in discussing, in Committee of Supply, the first class of the Civil Service Estimates—those relating to public works and buildings. No great progress was made, the first six votes only being agreed to.

The Boundary Bill was read a second time, and the committee on the Scotch Reform Bill was postponed to Thursday week. The House adjourned at twenty-five minutes to one o'clock.

## Foreign and Colonial.

### FRANCE.

The recent panic has subsided, owing to explanations in the *Journal des Débats* as to the cause of the war rumours and to a provincial speech delivered by M. Baroche, the Minister of Justice and Public Worship, who announced that a plan for the construction of parochial roads would be laid before the Legislative Body at its next sitting. M. Baroche observed that this plan, which will occupy the finances of the State and of the communes for a certain number of years, is essentially a work of peace, and would never have been undertaken by a prudent Government at a period when peace was not assured, or when war appeared imminent, or even only probable. M. Baroche concluded his speech as follows:—

The eagerness displayed by the Emperor to hasten the execution of the works is, therefore, an additional proof that he desires peace, and has no reason to believe in war. Yes, gentlemen, the Emperor desires peace—an honourable peace, worthy of a great nation. France, confiding in her own strength, is prepared for all eventualities. By the development of her military organisation she does not seek war, and we are convinced that no one entertains any idea of declaring war against her. The peace of Europe will not be disturbed. Do not believe, therefore, in those cries of alarm—the talk of war—which either error or malevolence reproduces with a kind of periodicity, and devote yourselves in safety to the labours of agriculture and of industry.

The Tribunal of Correctional Police has decided that the immunity promised to M. de Cassagnac for publishing the libels extends to M. de Kerveguen for repeating them, and has therefore acquitted the latter of the charge brought against him by the slandered editors.

The Protectionists of France continue to agitate against the treaty of commerce with England. Certain Chambers of Commerce, backed by Protectionist deputies, give a good deal of trouble in the matter, and threaten to give more.

### ITALY.

France and Italy (says the Berlin correspondent of the *Times*) are about to renew the Convention relative to the integrity of the Papal domains. The instrument embodying their views would have been signed long ago had not France flattered herself with the hope of securing the Pope's signature for it. Having failed in this, she will probably regulate matters with Italy alone.

The members of the Diplomatic Body have left for Turin to attend the marriage of the Crown Prince of Italy.

The Crown Prince of Prussia has arrived at Turin, and was received with the honours due to his rank. His Royal Highness is lodged at the palace of Prince Carignano.

Count Cambray Digny, the Minister of Finance, has submitted proposals for saving one hundred million lire in the Budget of 1869. The savings proposed include a reduction of twenty-six millions in the Army and Navy Estimates. Count Cambray Digny declared that it was the intention of the Government to effect a financial operation on the Church property in order to abolish the forced currency.

The Chamber of Deputies have adjourned to the 27th inst.

There has been some serious rioting at Bologna arising out of a general strike of workmen, which was put down by the military. The men have returned to work, but many arrests have been made. At a popular and democratic meeting it was resolved to petition Parliament against the heavy burden and unjust distribution of the income-tax, and to solicit the immediate release of the persons arrested. Further meetings have been prohibited by the Government, and the offices of the several associations have been closed.

On Sunday a solemn high mass was held at the Church of St. John Lateran, Rome, to celebrate the anniversary of the birth of the Emperor Napoleon. Several cardinals, members of the diplomatic body, and high Pontifical functionaries were present.

### GERMANY.

The North German Parliament has adopted a resolution calling upon the Chancellor of the Confederation to open negotiations with foreign Powers, with the view that by agreement between the different States the inviolability of private property at sea shall be established and recognised by treaty as being a fundamental principle of international law.

Some sensation has been produced in Northern Germany by Prince Louis of Hesse's resignation of the command he held in the Hessian army. This event is said to have been caused by the intrigues of the anti-Prussian party at the Hessian Court. The Prince, whose liberal opinions have made him a great favourite with the Hessian people, has since the events of 1866 warmly advocated the entrance of the whole of the grand duchy into the North German Bund. The Grand Duke, on the other hand, still leans towards Austria, but he has been obliged to give way. The Prince Louis has been reinstated, and his chief opponent in the Ministry, General Groleman, has been removed from his post.

Resolute as ever, Count Bismarck (says the Berlin correspondent of the *Times*) has declined the Napoleonic proposals respecting a Russo-Prusso-French co-operation in the East. He has likewise refused to renounce the idea of a nearer connection with Southern Germany, in return for an unequivocal recognition of the new arrangements in the North. While assuring France that he has for the present no intention to cross the Main, and extend the Federal institutions to its southern bank, he has yet given her to understand that this is a purely internal question, on which no engagement can be entered into with foreign Powers.

### AMERICA.

The impeachment trial was continued before the Senate on the 14th and 16th. On the former day General Sherman, who was examined as a witness, deposed that when President Johnson offered him the post of Secretary of War, he, the President, claimed the right under the Tenure of Office Act to make an *ad interim* appointment, and expressed a wish to get a case before the Supreme Court. On the latter day, evidence was produced by the counsel for the defence to show that President Johnson tried to get a writ of *quo warranto* to test the right of Mr. Stanton to hold the office of Secretary of War. On Monday the Court refused to receive the testimony of Secretary Welles and others, offered by the counsel for the defence, to prove that the Cabinet, including Mr. Stanton, advised President Johnson to veto the Tenure of Office Bill, and that the Cabinet had since agreed that the Act was inapplicable to the case of Mr. Stanton. The evidence for the defence was concluded, and the managers of the prosecution will argue in reply thereto on Wednesday (this day).

On Monday the House of Representatives passed, by 99 votes against 5, a bill introduced by Mr. Banks, relative to the naturalisation of immigrants to the United States. This bill enacts that any declaration or decision of officers of the United States Government which questions the right of expatriation is null and void; that all naturalised citizens of the United States, while in foreign countries, shall be entitled to the same protection as is now accorded to native-born citizens; and that when any citizen of the United States is arrested by any foreign Government, and his release delayed or refused upon the allegation that naturalisation does not dissolve his allegiance to his native Sovereign, the President shall be empowered to order the arrest of any subject of such foreign Government who may be found within the jurisdiction of the United States.

A bill for the continuance of the Freedmen's Bureau has been introduced in the Senate, and also a bill providing that no person shall serve as President for two terms.



A correspondence has been laid before the House of Representatives by Mr. Seward, from which it appears that that gentleman had suggested to Mr. Thornton, the English Minister, that the question of naturalisation should be settled by mutual legislation.

The Democrats re-elected Mr. English as Governor, and the entire State ticket in Connecticut by an increased majority (1,600), but the Republicans still have a majority in the Legislature. The Democrats carried the municipal elections at Cincinnati and St. Louis. The new Constitution providing negro suffrage has been defeated in Michigan.

General Grant had issued peremptory orders to the district commanders to break up the secret organisation known as the Kuklux Klan.

Advices from Canada announce that Mr. D'Arcy M'Gee was shot through the brain by an unknown assassin while returning from the Parliament House in Ottawa. Death was instantaneous. The motive of the assassin is still uncertain, but the general idea is that the bullet was aimed by a Fenian hand, the victim having of late years been distinguished as a loyal Irishman. A large reward had been offered for the discovery of the assassin. Three persons accused of being implicated in the crime had been arrested, one at Toronto and two at Ottawa.

#### THE ABYSSINIAN EXPEDITION.

Another despatch has been received at the India Office from Sir R. Napier. It is dated March 23, when the gallant commander, with the advance column, was at Latt, some miles beyond Lake Ashangi, and distant from Magdala sixty miles. On the same day (the 23rd) Sir R. Napier, with the advance column, were to resume their march, carrying provisions only, but no baggage. The second column was only one day in rear. King Theodore was said to be getting uneasy, and his intentions were uncertain. The troops were full of spirits.

According to the correspondent of the *Times*, Sir Robert Napier had with him 5,500 fighting men to advance on Magdala. The climate improved as they went on. Beyond Lake Ashangi supplies were said to abound:—

Major Grant, the African traveller, who has gone on ahead to open the market, gives in his official report a most satisfactory account of the fertility of the country, and of the eager, enthusiastic reception with which the inhabitants have welcomed him.

The country about Lake Ashangi is thus described:—

The route lay round the edge of a mountain range, winding along a narrow, precipitous path, lined on both sides with junipers, forming the thickest and finest forest which we have yet seen in Abyssinia. The district is graphically described by Mr. Munzinger as "the hunting-ground of the Galla brigands," and certainly there was cover enough for legions of banditti. If Theodore attacks the force at all, instead of waiting to be attacked, or shutting himself up at Magdala, he ought to take advantage of some such place as this. Unless timely warning were given of his approach, he might do a good deal of mischief. At one point the path took a sudden dip into the very bottom of the mountain-hollow, above which it ran, and, abruptly turning, went all but straight up the opposite side. From the top of this we had a fine view of Lake Ashangi, which is beautifully situated in a valley encircled by mountains, forming around it, as it were, a grand natural amphitheatre. We were rather disappointed in the lake itself, as the maps had led us to expect a very large lake, whereas it is only about four miles long and three broad. But the richness and loveliness of the adjoining valley far surpassed all that the most favourable accounts had prepared us for. It is covered with crops upon crops of waving corn, and seems capable of furnishing a force of any size with supplies. Its fertility would be remarkable anywhere, but its sudden appearance in Abyssinia, and marvellously striking contrast to the country through which we had just passed, made it look like a bit of fairyland. Villages swarm round it, perched up in all sorts of queer, picturesque positions among the rocks, to be out of reach of the Gallas.

The *Times* special correspondent with the expedition telegraphs as follows:—

MARCH 22.—The head-quarters of the expeditionary force are to-day at Latt. The British forces are marching rapidly towards Magdala in three brigades, without baggage. The first brigade is under the command of Colonel Milward. Spies report that the enemy is distant about sixty miles. The prisoners report that King Theodore will leave Magdala, but according to the accounts of spies he will make a stand at that place.

MARCH 23.—The head-quarters are to-day on the high ground at Redela (?). The 2nd and 3rd Brigades are following close behind. It is believed that Magdala is about sixty miles distant. Our spies report that the enemy will make a stand at Babilo. The enemy is reported to number 10,000 men, 5,000 being riflemen. The climate has been very severe, with thunderstorms and rain.

In a telegram from Zoulla of the 2nd of April, it is stated that Sir Robert Napier has made a rush on Magdala, in light marching order. He was expected to be there on the 2nd inst., but the result is unknown, owing to an interruption of the telegraph near Senafé.

#### FOREIGN MISCELLANY.

Since the outbreak of the civil war in the United States, the cultivation of cotton has been trebled in the Brazils.

The death is announced of Mrs. Maria Harding, of Gloster, New Jersey. This lady was one of the eye-witnesses of the execution of Major André.

At Jamaica the Commercial Association of Kingston were making arrangements for the colonisation of the island by means of European and American emigration.

According to accounts lately made public, but which, perhaps, partake of the exaggeration customary in such matters, there are gold deposits in Peru equal, if not superior, in richness to any yet discovered in California or Australia.

Barons Budberg and Meyendorff have settled their differences at Munich by a duel, in which the former, who is Russian Ambassador at Paris, was slightly wounded. The Baron has returned to the French capital to resume his political functions.

There has just been discovered at Pompeii the impression of a papyrus, the characters of which are perfectly legible. The result is of importance from the fact that no traces of any had been hitherto found in the excavations near Naples, although many were discovered at Herculaneum.

WOMEN DOCTORS.—In Philadelphia, six women physicians return incomes ranging from 2,000 dollars to 10,000 dollars a year. In Orange, New Jersey, there is another, whose annual income ranges between 10,000 dollars and 15,000 dollars. In this city, there is one whose income is rarely less than 20,000 dollars a year. Some of these physicians are successful surgeons as well as capable medical practitioners.—*The Revolution* (New York).

THE FATE OF DR. LIVINGSTONE.—We (*Field*) extract the following from a private letter, dated the 9th inst.:—"My sister has just received a letter from Dr. Kirk, consul at Zanzibar, to say that letters from Dr. Livingstone have reached him; that the doctor is quite well, and will shortly arrive at Cairo; and that he sends a letter from Dr. Livingstone himself to Mr. —. This letter has not yet arrived. Livingstone's sepoys and niggers all deserted him, and killed his baggage animals; but he went on alone, and has got through the part of the country he wanted to visit by himself."

#### ELECTION INTELLIGENCE.

GRANTHAM.—The seat for this borough is contested by Mr. Edmund Turner, Conservative, and Captain H. Cholmeley, Liberal. In his address the latter says he is warmly attached to Liberal principles, and in favour of vote by ballot. He adds:—"I shall be prepared to support any well-considered measure for terminating the establishment of the Church in Ireland, believing that the ecclesiastical ascendancy of a small minority of the Irish people is unjust in principle and injurious to the best interests of that country."

EAST KENT.—The nomination is fixed for Monday next. Mr. E. Leigh Pemberton is the Conservative candidate. He is opposed by Mr. H. J. Tufton, Liberal, whose prospects are said to be improving every day.

CLITHEROE.—Mr. C. S. Roundell, whose services in connection with the movement for extending the usefulness of the national Universities must be familiar to many of our readers, is, as we stated last week, a candidate for the representation of Clitheroe, in which a vacancy is expected to take place shortly. Mr. Roundell addressed a large and enthusiastic meeting of the electors of the borough on Friday evening, upon which occasion he was supported by Mr. Goldwin Smith. Mr. John Morley had also been expected, but was taken ill on his journey. Mr. Roundell, whose speech was loudly cheered, said he trusted that the day of class privilege, ascendancy, and exclusiveness, whether religious, political, or social, was past, never again to return. The importance of this great change in its bearing upon the position of the great leader of the Liberal party would be immense. Mr. Gladstone, instead of being checked and clogged by the insincerity, the half-heartedness, and even the falsity of many of his so-called Liberal supporters, must find himself in the new Parliament in the strong position of having the English people at his back. Mr. Goldwin Smith, in the course of his speech, said:—"I think that in Mr. Roundell Mr. Gladstone will have a most excellent and valuable follower. He has the advantage, and I think it a great one, which he ascribes to Mr. Gladstone, that of being able to stand, as it were, between the past and the present, and of being able to reconcile the two together. Mr. Roundell is my old pupil, and has long been my friend. Perhaps that will somewhat detract from the value of my political testimony in his favour, but that political testimony, whatever it may be worth, has been very cordially given. I do not believe there is any man in the circle of my acquaintance through whom you could render a greater service to the Liberal cause than by sending him to the House of Commons." The following is the greater portion of Mr. Roundell's admirable address to the electors of Clitheroe:—

The questions of absorbing public interest are the Irish question, and the Education question.

The bane of Ireland is ascendancy—the ascendancy of a privileged, anti-national Church; the ascendancy of an absentee, unsympathetic proprietary.

As a measure of justice, in the interest of the Church at home, in the interest of religion itself, in the paramount interest of the empire, of which Ireland is the present weakness, and the potential strength, I advocate the disestablishment and equitable disendowment of the Irish State Church.

But the Irish Church is already doomed. I hail the recent vote of the House of Commons as a harbinger of better times; as a key-note of reconciliation; as a prerogative message of peace and goodwill from the English to the Irish people.

The question of the tenure of land in Ireland is beset with difficulties. With deference to great authorities, I venture to think that heroic remedies are not called for; but that the solution of the problem is to be sought in the securing by law to the tenant the value of his permanent improvements: in the removal of artificial restrictions upon free commerce in land: and, above all,

in the bestowal upon the Irish people of a real representation in the Imperial Parliament.

I regard the Ministerial proposal to grant a charter to a Roman Catholic University as an insidious offer, of the most abnormal and retrograde nature. It is an attempt to set off privilege against privilege: to entrench, at any cost, the citadel of existing sectarian exclusiveness. In common with the friends of liberal education at our own Universities, I shall rather give my strenuous support to those who seek to nationalise the existing University of Dublin, and to throw open the honours and emoluments of Trinity College, freely and impartially, to all classes and denominations alike of Her Majesty's Irish subjects.

In education, generally, I uphold the golden rule of perfect religious equality. Building upon the sure foundation of respect for conscience, respect for learning, and the recognition of the claims of equal citizenship, I regard our elementary schools, our endowed grammar schools, and our universities, as a multifarious heritage dedicated from ancient times to national uses: as graduated parts of one great national system, to be severally reconstituted, governed, and administered in accordance with living needs, and large national objects.

I advocate therefore security being taken for the provision throughout the country of primary schools, sufficient in number, efficient in equality: the enforced application of school endowments to purposes of public educational utility: the opening and extending to the nation the benefits of our Colleges and National Universities.

By thus impressing upon our noble educational endowments a truly national character, by opening an avenue to ability, and enabling the flower of our youth, without respect of birth, or class, or creed, to obtain the highest education which our Schools and Universities can give, we shall not only prevent shameful waste, but also bind together the forces of English society.

I wish to see the Foreign policy of the country conducted upon the basis of respectful, self-respecting courtesy towards foreign Governments: and of friendship—cordial, fraternal friendship towards the people of the United States.

I am in favour of the Ballot, as the necessary complement of the recent extension of the franchise.

In all other domestic questions, I believe myself to be in accord with the matured principles of the party of progress.

While professing very supreme allegiance to the Liberal cause, I look to Mr. Gladstone as my political leader, as to the hope of the nation, the true friend of the people: as the Statesman, of largest heart and widest sympathies, who, standing upon the ancient ways, will best know how to moderate between the old and the new, between the glorious but outworn traditions of the past, and the national hopes and aspirations of the future.

STAMFORD.—Viscount Ingestre, formerly M.P. for Staffordshire, will be brought forward as the Conservative candidate for Stamford, in place of Lord Cranborne, now the Marquis of Salisbury.

LEOMINSTER AND RADNORSHIRE.—Mr. Walsh is a candidate for the seat in Radnorshire vacated by his father's elevation. The only candidate in the field for Leominster is Viscount Mahon. Both the candidate and the retiring member are Conservatives.

#### Crimes and Casualties.

On Friday morning a respectable young girl jumped off London Bridge after a quarrel with her lover, who jumped after her. She was swept away, and he was with difficulty rescued.

A few days ago a man at South Shields was eating oysters, when one stuck in his throat, and caused his death in a few minutes.

A frightful crime marred the festive proceedings in Ireland last week. On Wednesday night Mr. Featherstonehaugh, of Brackly Castle, county Westmeath, was shot dead when going from the Killucan station to his own residence, five miles from the station. An inquest was held on Thursday, and a verdict of "Wilful murder" returned. The deceased was driving on his car, when a man leaped across the hedge and fired the shot. He was so close to Mr. Featherstonehaugh that the coat of the latter was burned. The murder is agrarian, and is attributed to a recent raising of his rental by the deceased. The assassin has not yet been discovered.

Steeplechasing is a break-neck amusement. The other day, Mr. Edward Clifford, a gentleman rider, had his neck broken at Bromley races, and was killed on the spot. The Marquis of Queensberry has also had his leg broken in a steeplechase last week; and a groom, who was riding another of his horses in the same race, was severely crushed, and had one of his ribs broken.

On Friday, Samuel Jenkins, an ex-railway guard, was charged before the Kidderminster borough magistrates with having placed obstructions on the Great Western Railway with intent to upset a passenger train. It seems that the prisoner had been suspended for some offence, resigned his situation, and devised a hideous revenge. Determined to overset a train, he placed three formidable obstacles, one hundred yards apart, on the line near Kidderminster, and coolly took a seat at a window overlooking the railway, ready to exult at the imminent catastrophe. Fortunately he had been seen at his vile work; but the obstructions were removed only a few minutes before a train, conveying a thousand volunteers, passed over the spot! He has been committed for trial. On the same day a similar attempt was made on the Caledonian line, and was partially successful, but the criminal has not been arrested.

A little girl of three years, when she first saw an apple-tree in full bloom, exclaimed, "See God's big bouquet!"



## Literature.

## KINGSLEY'S SERMONS.\*

Low Church preachers, and Dissenters too, make too extensive use of Simeon's "Skeletons" and similar works, and their discourses therefore have a striking family likeness. But the really characteristic sermons of men within the Establishment generally differ greatly from those of men of equal power outside. With the Dissenter generally, there is more of the sermonic form and style, and more of rhetorical power. They are generally more theological in their caste of style and expression, and on the whole perhaps the best of them correspond more to the ideal of what a sermon should be. In the Anglican Church the sermon has so subordinate a part that we need not wonder that it is very brief, and if looked to for a complete discussion of the topic of which it treats, unsatisfactory. But there is in the best of Anglican sermons a finish of style, a condensation of power, a simplicity both of thought and expression, that is the highest triumph of art, from which Nonconformists may learn much. Mr. Kingsley, regarded altogether apart from his theological prepossessions, is an admirable example of this. His sermons are very brief, but they have a pith, a point, and a power which cannot fail to arrest the attention of the audience. He is singularly free from everything like a pulpit dialect, addressing men in direct and simple language which never approaches in the remotest degree to vulgarity or irreverence, but still is always plain and intelligible, and wins his way to their hearts. He is not what we should call a great, but he is certainly a stimulating, quickening, and attractive preacher, presenting even familiar truths with a freshness and force that are unfortunately too rare. We should never look to him for a discussion of difficult points of theology. Indeed, he treats theological controversies in general as a very profitless war of words, and does not care himself to break a lance in them. But in tearing aside some of those masks of sophistry by which men deceive their own hearts, in earnest denunciations of formalism, hypocrisy, and idle religious sentiment which bears no practical fruit, in the administration of pungent rebukes to every-day sins and the wise enforcement of every-day duties, in the exhibition of the beauty belonging to a life of godliness, and in the inculcation of those grand principles of liberty and charity which it seems so difficult for men to learn, there are not many to equal him. With him the pulpit is not the arena for the display of learning, of logical power, or even of great eloquence; but the place for the delivery of a great message by which men may be made wiser and better in the whole conduct of life, and the words which he speaks are generally words both of wisdom and strength.

The volume before us has not any very distinctive feature, but is marked by all his usual directness and force. The sermons are preserved from being dull and prosy, not only by being extremely brief, but also by being eminently practical and appropriate. Some of them were preached on special occasions, and deserve notice because of their peculiar adaptation to the audiences to whom they were delivered and the circumstances and surroundings of the time. It is too much the habit of popular preachers to neglect this point, and, by delivering discourses on the most general topics on such occasions, to lose the advantage of their position. Not so with Mr. Kingsley. He remembers why and to whom he is preaching, and seeks to secure for his message all that attention which its specific and suitable character may obtain for it. Thus, in addressing the volunteers at Wimbledon, he selects as his subject that "discipline" the importance of which they were all so likely to appreciate, and uses it for the inculcation of great spiritual lessons. In a sermon at Wellington College on All Saints'-day he chooses Solomon's allegory of the temple of wisdom, and works out the figure and the truths which it conveys in such a way as to leave an abiding impression on the minds of his youthful hearers. Prayer and science is the topic on which he discourses to the Corporation of the Trinity House, showing how the seaman is peculiarly qualified to solve the difficulties which such a subject suggests. The following striking passage embodies the teaching of his sermon:—

"But what is the temper of true religion,—of true science likewise? The seaman will say, I dare not pray that there may be no storm. I cannot presume to interfere with God's government. If there ought to be a storm, there will be one; if not, there will be none."

\* *Discipline, and other Sermons.* By the Rev. CHARLES KINGSLEY. London: Macmillan and Co.

But I can forecast the signs of the weather; I can consult my barometer; I can judge, by the new lights of science, what course the storm will probably take, and I can do my best to avoid it. But does that make religion needless? Does that make prayer useless? How so? The seaman may say, I dare not pray that the storm may not come; but there is no necessity that I should be found in its path. And I may pray, and I will pray, that God may so guide and govern my voyage, and all its little accidents, that I may pass it by. I know that I can forecast the storm somewhat; and if I do not try to do that I am tempting God; but I may pray, I will pray, that my forecast may be correct. I will pray the Spirit of God, who gives man understanding, to give me a right judgment, a sound mind, and a calm heart, that I may make no mistake and neglect no precaution; and if I fail, and sink—God's will be done. It is a good will to me and all my crew; and into the hands of the good God who has redeemed me I commend my spirit and their spirits likewise."

Plain, forcible speaking of this kind must always be effective, much more so with ordinary minds than the more elaborate arguments in which some indulge. We would point to another sermon on "Good Friday," and the admirable use which is made in it of the different collects of the day, and to the utterances of the truth with which the day is supposed to be associated, as another example of the same order of teaching. The way in which Mr. Kingsley cuts the Gordian knot of some theological questions, will, perhaps, hardly commend itself to many who seem to think it necessary that men should not only trust in Christ, but give in their adhesion to all the clever subtleties in which the simplicity of His Gospel has often been involved. Mr. Kingsley cares little for mere theory—he seeks only to insist on the fact, and its personal application, and it would be well for many who may doubt his orthodoxy if they were to show equal skill in commending the truth to the heart and conscience. These sermons, as a whole, are earnest stirring words, which have the power which must ever belong to that which expresses the deep convictions of the preacher's own soul, and shows that he has realised the actual wants of those whom he addresses.

## BRIEF NOTICES.

*Memorials of the late Rev. Andrew Crichton, B.A., of Edinburgh and Dundee.* Edited by WILLIAM G. BLAIR, D.D. (London: James Nisbet and Co.) Mr. Crichton was a minister of the Free Church of Scotland; first in Edinburgh, where he assisted Dr. Charles J. Brown, of the New North Free Church, and afterwards in Dundee, at Chapelhead Church, of which he was pastor at the time of his death. He was a young man of great promise in the pulpit of the Free Church; of cultivated style, of earnest spirit, and without restless inquisitiveness. The confession of his Church never seems to have been felt by him in the least as a fetter. In Edinburgh he does not appear to have risen to much popularity, but in Dundee his church was immediately crowded, and hundreds who would have attended his ministry were disappointed for want of room. All this promise was doomed to failure, for before Mr. Crichton had been a year in Dundee, his health thoroughly broke down, and he died in July, 1867, being little more than thirty years old. These memorials consist of a biography and samples of Mr. Crichton's pulpit and literary work. We wish there had been more modesty and good taste in the editing of the volume. There is considerable naïveté in Dr. Brown's sermon, quoted p. 29, but it is the naïveté of arrogance, and a judicious editor would have suppressed the passage. Mr. Crichton's article on "Robertson, of Brighton," might also have been suffered to remain in the pages of the *Sunday Magazine*. Robertson's struggles were quite beyond Mr. Crichton's power to apprehend, and are not to be attributed to ignorance of the evangelical theology. There is a good deal of beauty about Mr. Crichton's life. We therefore the more regret the denominational feeling that mars the book. The glimpses of family life are very touching—"Bring Katie," (his eldest daughter, a little girl of five) said he, when dying; "bring Katie that I may say good-bye to her, and then I'll slip away." The following lines were among the last things written by Mr. Crichton:—

"Sadly the winds are moaning, wailing,  
Calling over the sea,  
Asketh my spirit, weak and failing,  
Are they making their moan for me?"

The children are digging graves in the sand  
Along the shore of the sea,  
Little heed they or understand—  
Are they digging a grave for me?"

'Twixt heaven and earth an angel fieth,  
Wide-winged over the sea,  
And my trembling heart within me crieth—  
Brings he a message for me?"

Homeward the laden ships are hasting,

Hasting over the sea,  
Afar the sheen of their white sails casting—  
Is there a haven for me?"

Heavily gathers the black storm-cloud,  
Lowering over the sea,  
And winds are shrieking in mast and shroud—  
It is night, dark night with me.

There is life after death, and peace out of pain,  
Calm after storm on the sea,

Clear is the shining after the rain,  
The morning breaks for me."

*The Parables of Jesus: being Twenty Sunday Morning Meditations Thereupon.* By JOHN PAGE HOPPS. (London: Simpkin, Marshall, and Co.) Mr. Hopps has chosen to publish these discourses, because the Parables are almost the only portion of the New Testament as yet "untrodden by the feet of eager combatants," and not yet "reached by the restless returning tide" of criticism and controversy. Peacefulness is the distinctive feature of these meditations, and they are beautifully characterised by this. One thought Mr. Hopps aims to develop from each parable; he refuses to be drawn aside from its main teaching by incidental analogies or decorative imagery; and in consequence, there is never any confusion as to its teaching and practical import. Mr. Hopps will not burden the "Parables of Jesus" with his own dogmatic conclusions; his integrity in this is worthy of the highest commendation. He does not shrink from going beyond a parable, supplementing its teaching if he regards it as incomplete; but he never perverts Christ's words, nor seeks absolutely to identify Christ's teaching with his own school of thought. There is not much psychological insight in these discourses, and the style is sometimes a little affected and interjectional; but they are calm, faithful, and beautiful. The volume would be a very pleasant companion for a weary or a waiting hour. An extract from the discourse on "The Wise and Foolish Virgins" will indicate the general character of the book.

"There is no need even to mention the multitude of laboured expositions of this parable, which, for the most part, seem devised more for the sake of defending some dogma or upholding some system than for the getting out of it the one simple thought which is the one affecting burden of it. And what is that thought? Nothing very profound, nothing mysterious, nothing involved: it is simply this—that thoughtlessness may wreck us as well as wickedness, that negligence may make our life a failure as well as a sin. And, as I have said, there is something very touching in this; for the saddest of all sights in this world is to see a gallant ship go down for want of a little care, to see a life of fair promise all spoiled and thrown away for want of a little thought, or, as here, to see all willingness, or even affection, made of no avail through neglect. For these ten maidens started, so far as one can see, with an equal intention to be true. They all took their lamps, they all went forth, they were all disposed to take their place in the procession; for the good intentions of the foolish ones may be seen, not only in the fact that they began right, but that they tried to repair their fault as soon as they were conscious of it; for they begged their companions to give them of their oil, and when they found they had none to spare, they hastened to those that sold that they might buy for themselves; and it was only 'while they went' that the procession passed on, and when they returned the door was shut. Then, all that had gone before availed not. It was as nothing that they had gone out with the rest, it was as nothing that they had tarried there for hours to await the coming of their Lord; it was as nothing that they were covered with grief and shame to find that after all they were unready through their own neglect; it was as nothing that they strove to atone for their fault; their anxiety was then too late, and when they were ready the door was shut."

*Half-hours with the Telescope.* By RICHARD A. PROCTOR, F.R.A.S. (London: Hardwicke.) There are few objects constantly present to the senses of which the generality take less intelligent notice than the starry sky. Perhaps the chief reason of this, at least in England, is that the larger part of the population live in great cities and towns, where the atmosphere is too much obscured by smoke to permit a clear vision of the heavens. The multiplication of telescopes, however, is gradually awakening a popular interest in the familiar spectacle of the firmament, and Mr. Proctor's manual is well fitted to direct the curiosity of those who have at command a good two-inch object-glass. Those who have worked without such an aid as Mr. Proctor here affords will best appreciate the value of such a guide. With a moderately good telescope a man may learn some lessons respecting the creation which will greatly facilitate his faith in the "great things" of a loftier revelation. Purchasers of telescopes, however, whose means are limited, had better save their money for one of the new six-inch silver reflectors, which may be obtained at a comparatively low figure, rather than buy a two-inch refractor, whose space-penetrating power will soon come to an end, even under the able direction of Mr. Proctor.

## Court, Official, and Personal News.

The Queen again visited Aldershot on Wednesday, and spent some time in the camp.

Her Majesty arrived at Osborne on Friday evening, and will remain there for about three weeks, and then return to Windsor previous to leaving for Scotland.

The Queen will lay the foundation-stone of the new St. Thomas's Hospital in London on the 13th May.

It is stated that, at her Majesty's earnest desire, the Princess of Wales is accompanied on her trip to Ireland by a distinguished physician.

The *Edinburgh Courier* states that the Queen is most regular in attendance on Divine service, and notices the absence of any of her servants. On one occasion, at Balmoral, last season, she asked one of her attendants, on a Monday morning, "Why were you not at the kirk yesterday?" He answered, "Please your Majesty, the morning was wet." "Oh,



fie," said the Queen, "who could have expected a Scotchman to plead that excuse? It was not too wet for me."

A few days ago the Prince and Princess Christian (the latter of whom is understood to be an enthusiastic admirer of the Prime Minister) were entertained at luncheon by Mr. and Mrs. Disraeli at Hughenden Manor.

Cardinal Cullen was among the company who dined at Dublin Castle on Thursday night with the Prince of Wales.

The Rev. Benjamin Speke is said to have quite recovered from the unhealthy tone of mind with which he was recently afflicted, and to have had the permission of his medical advisers to resume the duties of his living at Dowlis Wake, near Ilminster.

The *British Medical Journal* learns on good authority that Sir Alexander Grant will be the Principal of the University of Edinburgh, in place of Sir David Brewster. Sir Alexander will also be appointed Professor of Moral Philosophy.

Mr. William Chambers, of Edinburgh, is preparing his autobiography, which will appear towards the close of the present year.

The Earl of Derby is so much improved in health that he was able on Friday to attend the Exhibition of National Portraits at the South Kensington Museum.

The Earl of Shaftesbury arrived in town on Saturday evening, having left his Countess and the rest of his family to travel by slower stages.

The Bishop of Winchester was so far recovered from his late attack as to be enabled to take an airing in his carriage on Friday.

It is stated that the Duke of Northumberland will be the new Lord-Lieutenant of Middlesex.

The announcement of the death of Dr. Elliottson is contradicted. He is still residing with Mr. Symes, in Davies-street, and is much in his usual state of health.

It is understood that Mr. Anthony Trollope has sailed for the United States, where he is empowered to arrange the terms of a new postal treaty.

Mr. Alfred W. Bennett, M.A., F.L.S., has been appointed lecturer on botany at Westminster Hospital.

General Simpson, for a short time commander-in-chief in the Crimea after the death of Lord Raglan, died on Saturday last at his residence, Horringer, near Bury St. Edmunds, after a somewhat protracted illness.

### Miscellaneous News.

EXETER HALL, MENDELSSOHN NIGHT. — The "Walpurgis Night" and "Hymn of Praise" (Lübgessang) will be given by the National Choral Society, under the direction of Mr. G. W. Martin, on Wednesday, the 29th. The band and chorus will number 700 performers.

EMIGRATION FROM THE EAST OF LONDON. — On Wednesday, 150 people, including men, women, and children, embarked on board the St. Lawrence screw steamship, lying in the Victoria Docks, bound for Quebec. The men were chiefly blacksmiths, fitters, sawyers, and labourers, and all of them in the prime of life. They had all lived in the East of London, principally in Poplar, and had all suffered more or less during the long-continued distress. None of them, however, had received parish relief. Most of them had families of four and five children each, and some had sons and daughters well grown. They are sent out under the auspices of the East-end Emigration and Relief Fund Committee.

THE QUEEN'S UNIVERSITY. — A meeting of the Convocation of the Queen's University in Ireland was held in Dublin on Tuesday, when Dr. William MacCormac, M.A., Belfast, was unanimously elected a member of the Senate, in room of the late Lord Rosse. Resolutions were moved *pro forma* condemning the establishment of a denominational university, and declaring that "religious equality in matters of education is to be sought, not by conferring a charter on a Catholic university in Ireland, but by opening all university powers and privileges equally to the members of all communions." An amendment, containing a simple declaration in favour of the present system of united education, was, however, proposed; and having been substituted for the above resolutions, was unanimously agreed to. A resolution in favour of the representation of the Queen's University in Parliament was also passed unanimously.

A GOOD EXAMPLE TO LARGE EMPLOYERS. — The Oxford Baths and Reading Rooms, erected by Mr. Hugh Mason, of Ashton-under-Lyne, for the free use of his workpeople, were opened a few days ago in presence of the Mayor and a number of local ministers and gentlemen. The building, which cost between 3,000*l.* and 4,000*l.*, comprises a reading-room (30ft. by 25ft.), coffee and smoking-room (24ft. by 18ft.), lecture-room (50ft. by 30ft.), and curator's residence, and baths. Some thousands of persons were present at the opening ceremony, which took place on a covered platform. In the course of his remarks, Mr. Mason said that in dedicating the building to the free and perpetual use of his workpeople, he would incite them to consider it their own. They knew that they would have the management of it. They knew that in that building they could at all times hold their meetings and tea-parties, and enjoy their amusements. (Cheers.) Mr. David Farrar, overlooker, and Mr. John Cooper, self-actor minder, accepted the gift on behalf of the workpeople. The Mayor said it afforded him no small pleasure to see one of the large employers of labour so generously con-

tributing to the welfare of his hands, and showing in such a manner the deep interest he took in all that concerned their happiness and wellbeing. He hoped many others would follow the example so nobly set by Mr. Mason. Speeches were afterwards delivered by Mr. Richard Oram, inspector of factories; the Rev. J. Hutchison, Mr. Y. T. Robinson, of the firm of Paul and Robinson, architects of the building; the Revs. Thomas Green, Mr. M'Curdy and James Hughes, and Mr. L. Haworth.

SURREY CHAPEL POPULAR LECTURES. — These lectures and entertainments for the working classes were brought to a close for the present season last week. Since November twenty-four meetings have been held in the chapel, attended by an aggregate of forty or fifty thousand working people from the surrounding neighbourhood. The course included scientific, political, biographical, literary, social, and subjects of general interest; also musical and elocutionary entertainments. The opportunity afforded by the indefatigable president — the Rev. Newman Hall — for securing an evening's entertainment apart from the pernicious influences of the public-house and low theatres, and for gaining useful information upon a variety of subjects, is most highly prized by the working classes, and the good effected is not only of a negative character, in drawing off many from scenes of vice, but is positive also, for many have overcome their scruples about attending a place of have been reclaimed from the enslaving habit of intemperance, and many have been led to unite themselves with the Church of Christ. With the exception of a few reserved seat tickets which are issued, there is free admission to the lectures, and it is found the voluntary offering at the close is generally sufficient to defray incidental expenses. These lectures are no longer an experiment, they are a grand success; and if all our churches could be thrown open at least one evening in the week for a similar object, much good might be effected with but little trouble.

THE RIGHT OF WOMEN TO VOTE. — A women's franchise meeting, held last week in the Free Trade Hall, Manchester, presented the remarkable spectacle of ladies standing upon the platform to advocate the cause. Mr. Pochin, the Mayor of Salford, presided, and his wife was one of the principal speakers. Miss Becker, the secretary of the Manchester auxiliary, in the absence of Mr. Bright's eldest daughter, moved a resolution declaring that the exclusion of women from the exercise of the franchise was unjust in principle, and that the right of voting should be granted to them on the same conditions as to men. In the course of her speech Miss Becker remarked that, "considering how long and how sedulously man had been inculcating on women the duty of political ignorance, it seemed very hard to turn round on them now, and allege this induced ignorance as an excuse for refusing their political rights." Archdeacon Sandford expressed his belief that women would use the franchise for the noblest political purposes. Mrs. Pochin cleverly applied to the case in point Mr. Disraeli's argument that those who bear the burdens of the State are entitled to a share of the representation, and instanced Austria as a country in which, not only unmarried women and widows, but married women, who possess property of their own, enjoy the right of voting. Mr. Chisholm Anstey gave in brief the substance of his legal argument that, under the ancient franchises of this country, women were entitled to vote. Mr. Jacob Bright, M.P., contended that the abolition of negro slavery, the repeal of the Corn-laws, and other beneficent acts of legislation, were largely due to the influence of women. Miss Annie Robertson, of Dublin, moved a vote of thanks to the members who voted for Mr. Mill's motion on the 20th of May, 1867. The resolutions were, of course, unanimously carried.

ANOTHER PROSECUTION OF EX-GOVERNOR EYRE. — On Friday a renewed application was made to the magistrates at Bow-street for a summons against Mr. Eyre, late Governor of Jamaica. Sir Robert Collier, formerly Solicitor-General, instructed by Messrs. Shaen and Roscoe, on behalf of Mr. J. S. Mill, M.P., and Mr. P. A. Taylor, M.P., made the application. The charge of murder has apparently been abandoned; and Mr. Eyre is now alleged to have committed crimes and misdemeanours under two statutes, known as the Colonial Governors Acts, by the issue of an illegal proclamation of martial law, and the commission of various illegal acts under it. The proclamation issued by Mr. Eyre, it seems, authorised the military forces to treat as "belligerents" those inhabitants of the island whom they might deem "opposed to the Government." This Sir R. Collier contended was doing what the Queen of England could not do — treating the subject as an alien enemy, and giving unheard-of power to a body which the law does not entrust with the investigation of guilt. The offence did not merely consist, Sir Robert argued, in the issuing of the proclamation, although that of itself was a misdemeanour, nor in the acts which were done under it before the disturbance was at an end; but in the maintaining of the condition of so-called martial law for many days after the disturbance was completely subdued, and the consequent permission to the military to investigate the guilt or innocence of civilians while the courts of law were sitting. The arguments apparently soon convinced Mr. Vaughan that he ought to grant the summons prayed for. He resolved to grant two summonses — one for the illegal issue of the proclamation and the acts done under it, and the other for the apprehension and punishment of those persons who resided beyond the martial-law district. It was stated that Mr. Eyre was in town, and Wednesday next was fixed for going more fully into the case.

### Cleanings.

It is proposed to erect a statue of Faraday in Westminster Abbey.

The Metropolitan Board of Works has purchased, for the healthy refreshment and recreation of the suburban public, the whole of Tooting-common.

A sacred drama, called "Joseph and his Brethren," was performed at the Heyside Independent School on Saturday evening, to defray the cleaning and beautifying of the school. — *Rochdale Observer*.

Mr. Faed's picture of the year "represents a working man who has been watching his sick boy through a restless night; the child, holding on by his father's sleeve, has fallen asleep; daylight finds them both at rest — worn out."

A writer in the *Cincinnati Journal* mentions the manufacture from petroleum of a sparkling, bubbling, foaming champagne, which will delight the eye, tickle the palate, gladden the heart momentarily — but quicken our paces towards the grave.

The desk of the Rev. H. Ward Beecher's church in New York is made of olive-wood from the Garden of Gethsemane, and in a church that is being built at Amherst the pulpit is to be of cedar from Mount Lebanon.

HOW THEY DO THINGS IN AMERICA. — Our enterprising contemporary the *New York Independent* offers one of Howe's sewing-machines to every person who sends (with the money) the names of twenty-four new subscribers, and a new book, "Six Months at the White House," to any one who obtains one subscriber for a year.

IRISH WIT. — A conceited coxcomb, with a very patronising air, called out to an Irish labourer, "Here, you bog-trotter, come and tell me the greatest lie you can, and I will treat you to a glass of whisky." "By my word," said Pat, "an' yer honour's a gentleman."

A SMART RETORT. — The *Hainaut* of Brussels says: — "A very fat lady on getting into one of our omnibuses, which, it must be said, are not over roomy, heard a gentleman make the grumbling remark, 'Omnibuses were not made for elephants.' To this she replied, 'Sir, omnibuses are like Noah's Ark, intended to carry all sorts of beasts.'"

FEELING HIS WAY. — "Uncle," said a young man (who thought that his guardian supplied him rather sparingly with pocket-money), "is the Queen's head still on the sovereign?" "Of course it is, you stupid lad! Why do you ask that?" "Because it is now such a length of time since I saw one."

HOLLOWAY'S PILLS. — PREMONITION. — The opinion gains ground that disease is a diminution of vitality, and there is little doubt that the powers of life are principally depressed by impurities in the system. This depravity can be corrected by taking a course, or an occasional dose, of Holloway's famous purifying Pills, which expel all morbid matters from the circulation, and thoroughly cleanse and invigorate the glands, viscera, and brain. Through this wholesome influence, Holloway's medicine casts out the seeds of all fevers, which in changeable weather prove so formidable to health, and in a vast majority of cases destroy life itself. Forewarned should be forearmed, a position easily obtained by taking these excellent Pills when lassitude, headache, or dejection distresses us.

### Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

#### BIRTHS.

MILLER. — April 14, at Long Sutton, Lincolnshire, the wife of the Rev. Josiah Miller, of a daughter.

DODGE. — April 14, at Odham, the wife of the Rev. S. E. Dodge, of a daughter.

MIALI. — April 20, at Fox-lane, Upper Norwood, the wife of Mr. Arthur Miall, of a daughter.

#### MARRIAGES.

WEBB-KNERITT. — April 2, at Passaic, New Jersey, United States. Mr. John W. Webb, of New York, to Amelia A., youngest daughter of the late Lieutenant Thomas L. Kneritt, R.N. No cards.

DOUGLAS-NIELSON. — April 7, at the Belgavian Presbyterian Church, Halkin-street, West, London, by the Rev. Thomas Alexander, M.A., William Douglas, jun., of No. 14, Lowndes-street, to Miss Nielson, of Bank House, Troqueur, Dumfries.

YOUNG-HONYCHURCH. — April 9, at Arley Chapel, Bristol, by the Rev. Charles Knibbs, of Hambrook, Benjamin, fifth son of Mr. Moses Young, of Hambrook, to Ellen, eldest daughter of Mr. Francis Honychurch, of Jacob street, Bristol.

PETER-HORNE. — April 10, at Broadmead Chapel, Bristol, by the Rev. T. A. Wheeler, Mr. Richard Peter, of Launceston, Cornwall, to Miss Ann Horne, of Bristol.

CHAPMAN-LOVICK. — April 10, at the Independent chapel, Needham-Market, by the Rev. James Jenkins, Henry, eldest son of Mr. William Chapman, to Mary Jane, only daughter of the late Mr. George Lovick, both of Needham-Market.

CHALMERS-GILES. — April 11, at Rusholme-road Congregational Chapel, Manchester, Mr. James Chalmers, Manchester, to Annie T., third daughter of the late Rev. T. Giles, of Clare, Suffolk.

STOAKES-DRONFIELD. — April 12, at Queen-street Chapel, Sheffield, by the Rev. J. P. Gladstone, Mr. Arthur Stoakes, to Sarah Ann, second daughter of the late Mr. Joseph Dronfield, St. Philip's-road.

SMITH-NORTH. — April 13, at the Congregational chapel, East Retford, Mr. Edwin Smith, to Miss Sarah North, both of Retford.

GRUNDY-BOARDMAN. — April 13, in St. Paul's Independent Chapel, Wigan, by the Rev. W. Roaf, Mr. Levi Grundy, to Miss B. Boardman, both of Aspull.

BURKITT-PARSONS. — April 14, at Selam Chapel, York, by the father of the bride, the Rev. T. Henry Burkitt, B.A., son of Robert Burkitt, Esq., of Wicklow, Ireland, to Emma Eliza, third daughter of the Rev. James Parsons.

FRANCIS-MARTEL. — April 15, at Christ Church, Brixton, by the Rev. James M'Connell Hussey, B.A., John Collins Francis, of Fleet-street, and 6, Belgrave Villas, Loughborough Park, to Louise Anne, only daughter of M. Jean Baptiste Martel, of San Francisco, and grand-daughter of the late William Johnson, Esq., of Bishopsgate.

NEWBERRY-TASKER. — April 15, at the Independent chapel, Andover, by the Rev. W. McOwen, William John, only son of the late J. G. A. Newbery, of Cardiff, to Mathilda, fourth daughter of William and Elizabeth Tasker, of Waterloo Ironworks, near Andover.

TAYLOR-HOLT. — April 16, at the New-road Independent chapel, Bury, by the Rev. J. H. Houston, Mr. Edmund Taylor, to Alice, eldest daughter of Mr. Thomas Holt, both of Bury.



## DEATHS.

**NEWMAN.**—April 16, at Newmarket-house, near Stroud, in his sixty-ninth year, Thomas Fox Newman, late pastor of the Baptist church, Shortwood. His funeral took place on Wednesday, when all the shops were closed, and his remains were followed to the grave by a large concourse.

**STARLING.**—April 15, suddenly, after a long illness, at his residence, 1, Canonbury-lane, Mr. James Kearsley Starling, formerly of 87, Upper-street, Islington, aged sixty-seven years.

**BRAYSHAW.**—April 15, at Coburg-street, Leeds, Mr. Benjamin Brayshaw, a member of the Society of Friends, aged seventy-four.

**MASON.**—April 17, in his eighty-seventh year, Thomas Mason, Esq., of Audenshaw Hall, near Ashton-under-Lyne.

## BANK OF ENGLAND.

(From Wednesday's Gazette.)

An Account, pursuant to the Act 7th and 8th Victoria, cap. 39, for the week ending Wednesday, April 15.

## ISSUE DEPARTMENT.

Notes issued	£34,586,995	Government Debt	£11,015,100
		Other Securities	£3,984,900
		Gold Coin & Bullion	19,585,995
	£34,586,995		£34,586,995

## BANKING DEPARTMENT.

Proprietors' Capital	£14,553,000	Government Securities	£13,277,696
Reserve	£3,098,160	Weight annuity	£13,277,696
Public Deposits	£4,030,116	Other Securities	£17,798,321
Other Deposits	£20,157,426	Notes	£10,122,900
Seven Day and other		Gold & Silver Coin	£1,124,285
Bills	£484,500		
	£42,323,202		£42,323,202

April 16, 1868. GEORGE FORBES, Chief Cashier.

## Markets.

## CORN EXCHANGE, London, Monday, April 20.

There was a small supply of English wheat to market this morning, for which in some instances 1s. per qr. advance on the rates of this day as night was paid. Foreign wheat met a better demand at late rates. Barley of all sorts fully as dear. Beans 1s. per qr. dearer. Peas very firm. The arrival of foreign oats for the week is good. For all sound, sweet samples, there was a fair steady demand, at the rates of this day week; while inferior and stale parcels were comparatively neglected, and cheaper to sell.

## CURRENT PRICES.

WHEAT—		PER Qr.		PER Qr.	
		s.	d.	s.	d.
Essex and Kent,	red, old	72	77	Grey	43 to 45
	ditto new	66	75	Maple	45 to 48
	White, old	75	82	White	45 to 48
	new	70	79	Boilers	45 to 48
	Foreign red	68	73	Foreign, white	44 to 47
	white	73	76		
BARLEY—				Rye	43 to 48
	English malting	35	36		
	Chevalier	39	48	OATS—	
	Distilling	37	42		
	Foreign	35	36	English feed	26 to 33
MAIZE—				potatoes	30 to 35
	Pale	—	—	Scotch feed	—
	Chevalier	—	—	potatoes	—
	Brown	54	63	Irish black	23 to 26
BEANS—				white	23 to 26
	Black	42	45	Foreign feed	24 to 28
	Harrow	43	46		
	Small	—	—	Flour—	
	Egyptian	43	44		
				Town made	60 to 64
				Country Marks	52 to 53
				Norfolk & Suffolk	49 to 51

**BREAD.**—London, Saturday, April 18.—The prices of wheat bread in the metropolis are from 10d. to 10½d.; household ditto, 7½d. to 9½d.

## METROPOLITAN CATTLE MARKET.

LONDON, Monday, April 20.—The total imports of foreign stock into London last week amounted to 5,183 head. In the corresponding week in 1867 we received 8,412; in 1866, 16,614; in 1865, 6,141; in 1864, 4,443; in 1863, 2,779; in 1862, 2,641; and in 1861, 2,491. To-day's market was very moderately supplied with foreign stock, which moved off slowly on rather lower terms. About an average supply of home-fed beasts was received fresh up this morning. Although the demand was far from active, last week's quotations were supported. The best Scots and crosses sold at 4s. 10d. to 5s. per 8lbs. The arrivals from Scotland were seasonably good, from Ireland very limited. From Norfolk, Suffolk, Essex, and Cambridgeshire, we received about 1,650 Scots, crosses, and shorthorns; from other parts of England, 600 various breeds; from Scotland, 310 Scots and crosses; and from Ireland, 45 oxen, cows, &c. As the weight and condition of most breeds were equal to all former seasons, sales progressed slowly, at a decline in the quotations of 2d. per 8lbs. The superior Downs and half-breeds, in the wool, changed hands at 5s. 2d. to 5s. 4d.; out of the wool, 4s. 8d. per 8lbs. Lambs were in good supply, and sluggish request, at from 6s. 4d. to 7s. 4d. per 8lbs. The demand for calves was inactive, at unaltered rates. The supply was only moderate. Prime small pigs, from their scarcity, were the turn dearer; but large hogs were very inactive, at late rates.

## Per 8lbs. to sink the Offal.

s. d. a. d.		s. d. a. d.	
Inf. coarse beasts	4 to 5 6	Prime Southdown	5 2 to 5 4
Second quality	3 8 4 0	Lambs	6 4 7 4
Prime large oxen	4 2 4 8	Lge. coarse calves	4 2 4 6
Prime So. to, &c.	4 10 5 0	Prime small	4 8 5 4
Coarse inf. sheep	3 6 4 0	Large hogs	3 4 3 8
Second quality	4 2 4 6	Neatam. porkers	3 10 4 4
Pr. coarse woolled	4 8 5 0		

Suckling calves, 22s. to 26s.; and quarter-old store pigs, 23s. to 26s. each.

## NEWGATE AND LEADENHALL, Monday, April 20.

Full average supplies of meat are on sale here. Generally speaking, the trade is heavy, on rather lower terms. The imports of foreign meat into London last week amounted to 13 cases from Antwerp, 212 from Hamburg, 3 from Harlingen, 1 case from Rotterdam, and 1 from Ostend.

## Per 8lbs. by the carcase.

s. d. a. d.		s. d. a. d.	
Inferior beef	2 10 to 3 2	Inf. mutton	3 0 3 4
Middling ditto	3 4 3 6	Middling ditto	3 6 4 2
Prime large do.	3 8 4 0	Prime ditto	4 4 4 6
Do. small do.	4 2 4 4	Veal	3 10 4 4
Large pork	3 10 3 6	Lamb	5 4 6 4
Small pork	3 8 4 6		

**COVENT GARDEN MARKET, LONDON, Saturday, April 18.**—Prices for all kinds of tender fruits have this week had a downward tendency, owing to supplies of that description of goods having been greater than the demand. Forced vegetables are also cheaper. Fresh new peas from Algiers have just made their appearance, and are realising from

15s. to 18s. per dozen packets, each weighing about 1lb. New potatoes from Lisbon fetch from 4s. to 6s. per dozen pound. Cornish broccolis are still plentiful and good. Flowers chiefly consist of orchids, cyclamens, lily of the valley, Chinese primulas, pelargoniums, cinerarias, deutzias, mignonette, early tulips, hyacinths, and roses.

**BOROUGH HOP MARKET, Monday, April 20.**—Although trade can scarcely be called active with us, a better feeling is observable, owing to the comparatively small stock of home growth on hand, and our market may be pronounced decidedly firmer than it was last week. Bavarians, Bohemians, and Belgians of good quality are in fair request, at prices slightly in advance of former quotations. Continental accounts are more promising, and the stocks held being now very light prices are firmly maintained. New York advices to the 8th inst. report no change in the market, but foreign arrivals having now almost ceased, an improvement is shortly looked for. Mid and East Kent, 5l. 5s. to 6l. 15s.; Weald for Kent, 4l. 10s. to 5l. 5s. to 6l. 5s.; Sussex, 4l. 10s. to 5l. 5s. to 6l. 10s.; Farnham and country, 7l. 7s. 15s. to 8l. 8s.; yearlings, 8l. 10s. to 4l. 10s. The imports of foreign hops into London last week were on a limited scale, comprising only 55 bales from Hamburg, and 70 from Rotterdam.

**PROVISIONS, Monday, April 20.**—The arrivals last week from Ireland were 125 firkins butter, and 3,520 bales bacon; and from foreign ports, 22,213 casks, &c., butter, and 1,490 bales, and 150 boxes of bacon. Foreign butter still in short supply for the demand. Best Dutch advanced to 12s. to 13s. In other descriptions of foreign there was little alteration in prices. The bacon market ruled stiff, and prices advanced 4s. during the week. Best Waterford sold at 7s., free on board; the market closing very firm.

**POTATOES.**—BOROUGH AND SPITALFIELDS, Monday, April 20.—Large supplies of potatoes are on sale in the various markets. Very little business has been doing in any description, at our quotations. Last week's London imports consisted of 220 sacks Boulogne, 163 Bordeaux, 374 Dunkirk, and 100 tons from Groningen. Regents, 120s. to 150s. per ton; flukes, 125s. to 160s.; rocks, 100s. to 120s.; French, 70s. to 85s.

**SEED, Monday, April 20.**—Supplies of English cloverseed were moderate; demand for fine red qualities steady, and prices were quite as high. White samples remain high. Trefoils remain in limited request, on former terms. Nothing passing in either white or brown mustardseed to change the value of either sort. Tares were taken for feeding at moderate rates. Maize was sold on rather lower terms.

**WOOL, Monday, April 20.**—The demand for English wool has ruled fairly active, the finer sorts of skin wool being in good demand, and realising more money. The revival of trade in the manufacturing districts has necessarily caused a steady feeling in the market, and we look for additional firmness in the quotations. The new clip is now coming forward freely, and the quality is considered good.

**OIL, Monday, April 20.**—The improvement in the demand for linseed oil, noticed last week, has been maintained, and prices have had an upward tendency. Rape oil has been easier to purchase. In olive oil business has been on a very limited scale. There has been a good export inquiry for coconut oil, at steady rates. Fine Lagos palm oil is scarce, and held for full quotations. Petroleum is inactive, at 1s. 2d. to 1s. 2½d. for S.B. Turpentine is quiet.

**TALLOW, Monday, April 20.**—The market is steady, and P. Y. C., on the spot, has receded to 44s. 6d. Town tallow is 48s. 3d. net cash.

**COAL, Monday, April 20.**—Market firm, with no advance on last day's sale. Wallend Hettens 10s., South Hettens 18s. 3d., Haswell 16s., Lambons 18s. 6d., Braddys Hettens 16s. 6d., Hettens Lyons 16s. 6d., Frammelgate 15s. 9d., East Hartlepool 18s. 6d., Kelloe 18s. 6d., Hawthorn 16s., Eden Main, 16s. 8d., Tanfield Moor 14s. 8d. Ships fresh arrived, 27; ships left from last day, 7—34. Ships at sea, 15.

## Advertisements.

## SOCIETY for the LIBERATION of RELIGION from STATE-PATRONAGE and CONTROL.

DELEGATES TO THE TRIENNIAL CONFERENCE on the 5th and 6th May should be appointed this month. The requisite information may be obtained on application to the undersigned,

J. CARVELL WILLIAMS, Secretary.

2, Serjeants'-Inn, Fleet-street, E.C.

## SYSTEMATIC BENEFICENCE SOCIETY.

The EIGHTH ANNUAL MEETING will be held in EXETER HALL on WEDNESDAY, May 6. The chair will be taken at Seven o'clock by HUGH M. MATHESON, Esq., of Bingham.

The Rev. R. W. Dale, M.A., Rev. R. W. Forrest, M.A., Rev. J. Fordyce, of Cardiff, Rev. A. Murrell, Rev. A. M'aulane, Rev. G. T. Perks, M.A., Rev. Dr. Rees, of Swansea, Rev. John Ross, T. B. Smithies, Esq., and other gentlemen, may be expected to address the meeting.

The Report will contain most gratifying evidence of the progress of the principles of Systematic Beneficence at home and abroad, as well as of the first of a series of important conferences intended to lead to their discussion in the ecclesiastical assemblies of the country.

R. G. CATHER, LL.D., General Secretary.

## SIXTY-NINTH ANNIVERSARY of the RELIGIOUS TRACT SOCIETY.—On SUNDAY, April the 26th, SERMONS will be preached on behalf of the Society in

ST. STEPHEN'S CHURCH, LAMBETH, By the Rev. J. H. TITCOMB, M.A., and in CRAVEN-HILL CHAPEL, BAYSWATER, By the Rev. A. McMILLAN, D.M. Divine Service to commence in both places at Eleven o'clock a.m.

## THE PUBLIC MEETING

Will be held at EXETER HALL on TUESDAY EVENING, April the 28th. The Chair will be taken by DUNCAN McCLAREN, Esq., M.P., at Half-past Six o'clock.

Information will be given as to the Society's operations in the British Islands and on the Continent of Europe, in India, China, and the Colonies.

Resolutions will be moved and seconded by the Rev. W. R. FORREST, Chaplain of the Lock Hospital; the Rev. Dr. MURLES, Foreign Secretary to the London Missionary Society; the Rev. Dr. WINSLOW, late of Bath; the Rev. H. HULMATT, Senior Chaplain to the Forces.

Tickets for the Annual Meeting may be had at the Depositories, 56, Paternoster-row, 65, St. Paul's Churchyard, and 164, Piccadilly.

## THE HOSPITAL for SICK CHILDREN, 48

and 49, Great Ormond-street, W.C.

Patron—Her Majesty the QUEEN.

This Hospital depends entirely on voluntary support.

The 75 Beds are always filled. Out-Patients receive advice and medicine free every morning. 500 Children attended on Monday, the 23rd March.

The Committee very earnestly solicit CONTRIBUTIONS.

BANKERS.

Williams, Deacon, and Co.; Messrs. Hoare; Messrs. Herries.

F. H. DICKINSON, Chairman.

## SPRING HILL COLLEGE, BIRMINGHAM.

PROFESSORS: Revda. T. R. BARKER, G. B. BUBIER, and H. GOWARD, M.A.

Candidates for the Ministry who may desire to become STUDENTS in the above College are reminded that their applications for ADMISSION should be made at once. Full particulars may be obtained from

SAMUEL PEARSON, M.A.,  
Hon. Secretary to the Board of Education,  
56, Francis-road, Edgbaston.

## THE ASYLUM for IDIOTS, Earlswood,

Redhill, Surrey.—The ANNUAL GENERAL COURT and SPRING ELECTION of this Charity will be held on Thursday, the 30th inst., at the London Tavern, Bishopsgate-street, to receive the reports, domestic and financial, to appoint the officers for the ensuing year, and to elect 35 applicants, viz. five for life, and 30 for the ordinary period of five years, from the list of 248 approved candidates.

JAMES ABBISS, Esq., J.P., Treasurer, in the chair.

The meeting will commence at 11 o'clock, the poll at 12, and close at 2 o'clock precisely.

Notwithstanding the exceptional circumstances and depression which have generally prevailed, it is gratifying to the Committee to be able to report that this Charity has met with increased support from the public; they have, therefore, resolved, in consideration of the large list of applicants, to increase the number of admissions to 35, and to elect five cases for life, and 30 for five years.

WILLIAM NICHOLAS, Secretary.

Office, 20, Poultry, E.C.

## CONGREGATIONAL SCHOOL, LEWIS-

HAM, for the EDUCATION of the SONS of MINISTERS.

The ANNUAL MEETING and HALF-YEARLY ELECTION of this SCHOOL will be held at the London Mission House, Blomfield-street (kindly lent for the occasion), on TUESDAY, April 28. Chair to be taken at 2 o'clock p.m., by EDWARD BAINES, Esq., M.P.

The ANNUAL SERMON will be preached by Rev. NEWMAN HALL, LL.B., on WEDNESDAY, May 6, at PARK CHAPEL, Camden Town (Rev. J. C. Harrison's). Service at 7 o'clock.

J. VINEY, Hon. Secretary.

## PASTORS' RETIRING FUND.

THE EIGHTH ANNUAL MEETING of the Managers and Members of the PASTORS' RETIRING FUND will be held in the CONGREGATIONAL LIBRARY, 18, South-street, Finsbury, on WEDNESDAY, the 18th of May, at half-past Four o'clock.

ROBERT FERGUSON.

## TRIENNIAL CONFERENCE of the LIBERATION of RELIGION from STATE-PATRONAGE and CONTROL.

NEXT WEEK is the last week for the appointment of Delegates to the CONFERENCE, on the 5th and 6th of May. Forms of nomination and other information may be had on application.

The PUBLIC SOIREE in connection with the Conference will be held at the HANOVER-SQUARE ROOMS on Wednesday evening, May 6th.

Cards of admission 1s. 6d., or double tickets, 2s. 6d.

Further particulars will be announced next week.

J. CARVELL WILLIAMS, Sec.

2, Serjeants'-Inn, Fleet-street, London.

## BRITON MEDICAL and GENERAL LIFE ASSOCIATION.

Chief Office..... 429, Strand } London.  
City Branch ..... 1, Princes-street, Bank.

Extract from the Fourteenth Annual Report read at the ORDINARY GENERAL MEETING of Policyholders, held on the 16th instant.

The proposals for new assurances have been 3,780 for £1,010,180 15s., a larger number than has been received in any previous year. New policies have been issued—

Numbering..... 8057

Assuring ..... £792,725 0 0

And yielding in new premiums ..... 25,466 0 0

The total income of the Association has risen to 231,545 0 0

Balance of year's revenue ..... 76,311 16 10

Detailed reports, prospectuses, and every information, may be obtained on application to

JOHN MESSENT, F.I.A., F.S.S., Actuary and Secretary

## SIX POUNDS PER WEEK WHILE LAID

UP by INJURY, and £1,000 in case of Death caused by Accident of any kind, may be secured by an annual payment of from £3 to £6 5s. to the RAILWAY PASSENGERS ASSURANCE COMPANY. Railway accidents alone may also be provided against by insurance tickets for single or double journeys. For particulars apply to the Clerks at the Railway stations, to the local agents, or at the offices, 64, Cornhill, and 10, Regent-street.

W. J. VIAN, Secretary.

## A BAZAAR, in aid of the Gospel Oak School

Building Fund (in connection with the Congregational Chapel), will be held in June; and USEFUL and FANCY ARTICLES will be thankfully received by the Rev. R. H. SMITH, Mansfield-place, Gospel Oak, N.W.

The neighbourhood is sothing with vice and poverty, and appeals loudly to the sympathy of the friends of religious education.

## UNPARALLELED EASTER NOVELTIES.

—"The Shadow Blondin on the High Rope."—Professor Pepper on Faraday's Optical Experiments with Cogged Wheels? the Thaumatrope; the Kalotropes. —Buckland's Musical, Spectral, and Dioramic Entertainment. "The Marquis of Carabas;" scenes by O'Connor, of the Haymarket. —Spiritual Manifestations a la Home.—Andersen's beautiful story, "The Angel and the Flower," illustrated.—New wonders, "Everything Floating in the Air"—form a portion of the Festivals provided for the patrons of the POLYTECHNIC the large Theatre of which has been redecorated, and a new Classical Proscenium added, the design of John O'Connor, Esq., the Haymarket Artist.—ONE SHILLING.

## TO GROCERS.—As IMPROVER, by a

YOUTH, the son of a Congregational minister. He has been nearly two years at the trade. Is very steady and honest.

The Rev. George Rodgers, Stalbridge, Blandford.

## TO GROCERS.—RE-ENGAGEMENT, by a

thoroughly respectable YOUNG MAN, aged 21, of good business habits. Town or country. Three and a-half years' experience. Good reference.

G., Post-office, Mers, Wilts.

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First or Second, by the Advertiser. Two years' good reference.

E. A., Post-office, Ongar, Essex.

## TO GROCERS.—As COUNTERMAN, or to

solicit orders, by a thorough business young man. Age, 24 years. Good reference.

Y. E., Post-office, Kettering.



## BAPTIST ANNIVERSARIES.

1868.

THURSDAY MORNING, April 23.—BAPTIST MISSIONARY SOCIETY, Introductory PRAYER MEETING at JOHN-STREET CHAPEL, BEDFORD-ROW. The Rev. J. P. MURSELL, of Leicester, to preside. Time of Service, Eleven o'clock.

EVENING.—BAPTIST MISSIONARY SOCIETY, ANNUAL WELSH SERMON at CASTLE-STREET CHAPEL, TOTENHAM-COURT-ROAD. Preacher—Rev. JOHN RHYS MORGAN, of Llanelly. Service to commence at Seven o'clock.

LORD'S DAY, April 26.—BAPTIST MISSIONARY SOCIETY, ANNUAL SERVICES in the various Chapels of the Metropolis. For particulars, see the *Missionary Herald* for April.

MONDAY MORNING, April 27.—BAPTIST UNION OF GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND, ANNUAL SESSION at JOHN-STREET CHAPEL, BEDFORD ROW. Chairman—Rev. F. W. GOTCH, LL.D., President of Bristol Baptist College. Proceedings:—Chairman's Address—Report—Paper on National Education, by the Rev. S. G. Green, B.A.—Discussion. Chair to be taken at half-past Ten o'clock a.m. N.B.—The galleries are open to the public.

EVENING.—BIBLE TRANSLATION SOCIETY, ANNUAL MEETING at KINGS-GATE-STREET CHAPEL, HOLBORN. Chairman—HENRY KELSALL, ESQ., of Rochdale. Speakers—Revs. W. Bailey, of Berhampore; George Kerry, of Calcutta; J. P. Chown, of Bradford; and W. Walters, of Newcastle. Chair to be taken at half-past Six o'clock.

TUESDAY MORNING, April 28.—BAPTIST MISSIONARY SOCIETY, ANNUAL MEMBERS' MEETING at JOHN-STREET CHAPEL, BEDFORD-ROW. Chair to be taken at half-past Ten o'clock.

WEDNESDAY MORNING, April 29.—BAPTIST MISSIONARY SOCIETY, ANNUAL SERMON at BLOOMSBURY CHAPEL. Preacher—The Rev. JAMES SPENCE, D.D., of Homerton. Service to commence at Eleven o'clock.

WEDNESDAY EVENING.—ANNUAL SERMON at WALWORTH-ROAD CHAPEL. Preacher—The Rev. JOHN TRAFFORD, M.A., President of Serampore College. Service to commence at Half-past Six o'clock.

EVENING.—BAPTIST TRACT SOCIETY, ANNUAL MEETING at EXETER HALL (Lower Room). Chairman—J. H. HOPKINS, Esq., of Birmingham. Speakers—The Revs. W. Walters, of Newcastle; Joseph Harvey, of Bury; W. T. Henderson, of Devonshire-square; and John Stock, LL.D., of Devonport. Chair to be taken at Half-past Six o'clock.

THURSDAY MORNING, April 30.—BAPTIST UNION, ANNUAL SESSION at WALWORTH-ROAD CHAPEL. Chairman—Rev. F. W. GOTCH, LL.D. Proceedings:—Report on Sustentation Fund, by Rev. C. Williams, of Southampton—Resolutions on Irish Church, to be introduced by E. B. Underhill, Esq., LL.D. Chair to be taken at Half-past Ten o'clock. The delegates will dine at the Metropolitan Tabernacle by invitation of the London Baptist Association. N.B.—The galleries will be open to the public.

THURSDAY EVENING.—BAPTIST MISSIONARY SOCIETY, ANNUAL MEETING at EXETER HALL. Chairman—HENRY KELSALL, Esq., of Rochdale. Speakers—Revs. C. Clark, of Broadmead, Bristol; G. Kerry, of Calcutta; D. Wessell, of Bath; Dr. Price, of Aberdare; and Charles Reed, Esq., of Hackney, London. Chair to be taken at Half-past Six o'clock.

FRIDAY EVENING, May 1.—BAPTIST MISSIONARY SOCIETY, YOUNG MEN'S MISSIONARY ASSOCIATION, ANNUAL MEETING at the METROPOLITAN TABERNACLE. Chairman—Mr. Sheriff MCARTHUR. Speakers—Revs. Q. W. Thomson, of Camerons River; J. G. Gregson, late of India, and other gentlemen. Chair to be taken at Half-past Six o'clock.

FRIDAY EVENING.—BAPTIST BUILDING FUND, ANNUAL MEETING at JOHN-STREET CHAPEL, Bedford-row. Chairman—The Hon. and Rev. BAPTIST W. NOEL, M.A. Chair to be taken at Seven o'clock.

**WANTED, by a YOUNG LADY (19)** with a slight knowledge of millinery, a SITUATION in the above or any other light business. Will give 6 months. A Christian home and country preferred. References exchanged. Beta, Crookham-street, Farnham, Surrey.

**TO DRAPERS and MILLINERS.**—As IMPROVER, by a young lady, aged 16. Prefers the counter, and make up time at millinery. One year's experience. Give first 6 months, and commence with a small salary. Good references as to respectability, &c. P. Q., Mr. Owens, High-street, Basingstoke.

**TO DRAPERS.**—As ASSISTANT to the GENERAL DRAPEY, by a Young Lady. Good reference. Address, X. Y., Mr. Sully, Carhampton, Somerset.

**TO DRAPERS.**—A YOUNG LADY wishes for a re-engagement in the FANCY DRAPEY, in a genteel trade. Age 19. Salary, £12 per annum. Address, S. S., 5, Durham-cottages, Leipsic-road, Camberwell, S.

**TO TAILORS.**—W. WYATT, Tailor and Teacher of Cutting, Minter-street, Reading, and 88, Warwick-street, Pimlico. RECEIVES PUPILS to teach them the art of fitting proportionate and disproportionate men by the new self-adjusting system, by which they are fully qualified for foremen in a few weeks. Prospectuses, with testimonials and illustrations, free.

**NO SALARY.**—A young WIDOW LADY, thoroughly understanding HOUSEKEEPING, would fulfil an engagement as LADY HOUSEKEEPER to a Lady, Nobleman, or Gentleman. Economy studied. Stamp for reply. Address, Mrs. Parker, 7, Brunswick-terrace, Southampton.

**LADY'S-MAID, WARDROBE-KEEPER, or NEEDLEWOMAN,** by a young person, with good recommendations. E. D., Mr. Garlike, Ripley, Surrey.

**HOUSEKEEPER to a WIDOWER or SINGLE GENTLEMAN.**—A trustworthy, middle-aged person, with good reference as to care. No objection to one or two children. Wages not so much an object as a comfortable situation. M. A. W., 21, Bartlett's-buildings, Holborn, London.

**THE ADVERTISER is DESIROUS** of obtaining a SITUATION as COMPANION to an ELDERLY LADY; Housekeeper; Governess to Young Children; or any occupation of trust. A moderate salary required. Good references. Address, M. M., 16, Tollington-park, Hornsey-road, Holloway, N.

**A LADY** wishes to recommend a YOUNG LADY of amiable disposition and superior manners, as USEFUL COMPANION, or to assist a lady in domestic affairs. The charge of Children not objected to. Discreet preferred. Address, C. M., Miss Varley, Manor-road, Lewisham High-road, S.E.

**MR. COOKE BAINES, SURVEYOR and COMPENSATION VALUER,** 106, CHEAPSIDE, E.C. Claims against railway and other public companies prepared and arranged. Every information supplied as to the various metropolitan improvements. All descriptions of property valued for probate, &c. Money obtained on freehold or leasehold securities.

**WEAKNESS.**—The finest TONIC is WATERS' QUININE WINE, unrivalled as a stomachic stimulant. Sold by grocers, oilmen, confectioners, &c., at 30s. per dozen. WATERS and WILLIAMS, the original makers, 2, Martin's-lane, Cannon-street, London.

**RICH SILKS.**—Moires, &c., in Dresses, at 25s. 6d., 31s. 6d., 40s., and 45s.; the Moire at 75s. Silk Reps (Plain and Chêne de Roubaix, at 3s. 6d., yard wide, selling everywhere at 4s. 6d., suitable for morning or evening wear. Ladies, send for Patterns. Harvey and Co., Lambeth House, Westminster Bridge, S.

**NEW POPLINE DRESSES,** at 13s. 9d., 12s. 6d., and 10s. 6d. Texture soft, and colours chaste and beautiful, in plain and broche, same as now selling in Paris at 25 francs. Also, a delivery of FRENCH MERINOS, at 2s., double width, not to be equalled by any house. Harvey and Co., Lambeth House, Westminster Bridge, S.

**BEDSTEADS, BATHS, and LAMPS.**—WILLIAM S. BURTON has Six large Show-rooms devoted exclusively to the separate display of LAMPS, BATHS, and METALLIC BEDSTEADS. The Stock of each is at once the largest, newest, and most varied ever submitted to the public, and marked at prices proportionate with those that have tended to make his establishment the most distinguished in this country.

Bedsteads, from 12s. 6d. to £30 0s. each.  
Shower Baths, from 8s. 0d. to 28 0s. each.  
Lamps, Modérateur, from 6s. 0d. to 28 10s. each.  
(All other kinds at the same rate.)  
Pure Colza Oil, 3s. 9d. per gallon.

**FENDERS, STOVES, FIRE-IRONS, and CHIMNEY-PIECES.**—Buyers of the above are requested, before finally deciding, to visit WM. S. BURTON'S SHOW-ROOMS. They contain such an assortment of FENDERS, STOVES, RANGES, CHIMNEY-PIECES, FIRE-IRONS, and GENERAL IRONMONGERY, as cannot be approached elsewhere, either for variety, novelty, beauty of design, or exquisiteness of workmanship. Bright Stoves, with ornate ornaments, £3 8s. to £33 10s.; Bronzed Fenders, with standards, 7s. to £5 12s.; Steel Fenders, £3 3s. to £11; Ditto, with rich ornate ornaments, from £3 3s. to £18; Chimney-pieces, from £1 8s. to £100; Fire-irons, from 3s. 3d. to £4 4s.—The BURTON and all other PATENT STOVES, with radiating hearth-plates.

**WILLIAM S. BURTON, GENERAL FURNISHING IRONMONGER,** by appointment to H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, sends a Catalogue gratis and post paid. It contains upwards of 700 illustrations of his unrivalled Stock of

Sterling Silver and Electro-plate,  
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4. The finest Assam Congou, 3s. a lb. This is very strong tea, of Indian growth, draws a deep red liquor, is very pungent, a little coarse, but drinks full in the mouth. It is quite a distinct class of tea, rather peculiar, and not appreciated by all; in fact, to like it requires an acquired taste.
5. The finest Oolong, 3s. a pound. This is high burnt, very pungent tea, and is an especial favourite with the tea-drinking public in America, among whom it is more esteemed than in England; in fact, the Americans drink hardly any other tea. It draws a pale liquor, and resembles green tea in many respects.
6. The finest Canton scented Pekoe, 3s. a lb. This is a fine wiry leaf, strongly scented tea, of peculiar piquancy and sharpness of flavour, and is frequently used to fetch up the flavour of second-class teas. It is more frequently used as a curiosity, and as an experiment than by the tea-drinking public; it is, in fact, a fancy tea.
7. The finest Foo Chow scented Pekoe, 3s. a lb. This is a small, closely twisted leaf, scented with jessamine flower. When infused, it exhales a rich and fragrant perfume, which is perhaps less grateful to the palate than to the other senses.
8. The finest scented Caper, 3s. a lb. This is a small, shotty leaf, very compact and heavy, drinks very brisk and pungent. It is rather a plebeian tea, but is occasionally tried by diligent seekers after excellence, who at last settle down to the "Princely Kyahow."

No other price for black tea.

#### LIST OF FINE GREEN TEAS

9. The finest Moyune Hyson, 4s. a lb. This tea is delicately fine. Its flavour resembles that of the cowslip, and the colour of the infusion is marvellously like cowslip wine. It possesses the finest flavour of all green teas. It is principally consumed in Russia.
10. The finest Young Hyson, 4s. a lb. This is a small, compact leaf, and the really fine (such as Cooper Cooper and Co. sell) is exceedingly strong, and of a very fine almond flavour.
11. The finest Moyune Gunpowder, 4s. a lb. This tea is much esteemed in England. It is brisk, high-burnt flavour, shotty in leaf, and heavy; it is not so fine or so pure in flavour as Hyson, but its great strength renders it a favourite with many.
12. The finest Ping Suey Gunpowder, 4s. a lb. This is very small in the leaf, very handsome and compact, resembles pin heads, but is not so pungent in liquor as Moyune Gunpowder.
13. The finest Imperial, 4s. a lb. This is a large knotty leaf tea, very strong, but not much in flavour; but when really fine is sought after by the curious.

No other price for green tea.

There are other classes of tea, but these are the choicest and best. Cooper, Cooper, and Co. recommend consumers to try the first four on the list—Souchong, Moning, Kyahow, and Assam. By having a small parcel of each of these they will be enabled to judge for themselves and select the flavour suitable to their taste, and then by sending for the one approved of by number, they may always rely upon having exactly the same character of tea.

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As Cooper, Cooper, and Co.'s prices are net at their warehouses, this system of charging for delivery cannot fail to approve itself to the public. If teas in small parcels can be delivered free at any distance there must be a proportionate profit charged for it, and this is charged on all the tea sold. Cooper, Cooper, and Co. make one uniform charge for delivery, as the expense to them is the same in delivering a small parcel of tea as a large one.

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